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For the National Era.

HERMAN;

OR,

YOUNG KNIGHTHOOD.

BY E. FOXTON,
Author of "Prémices."

CHAPTER VI.

The Angel of the Hearth.

"A perfect woman, nobly planned,
To warn, to comfort, and command."
Wordsworth.

"Obedient Yamen
Answered, Amen;
And did
As he was bid."
Rejected Addresses.

Herman ran down to the dining-room for the roll and cup of solitary tea, with which he had requested Miss Dalley, whose versatility was at present officiating as sub-housekeeper and head cook, to supply him. Quite an astonishing whiff of warmth and glare of fire-light came in his face, as he opened the door; and, at the table—a still further and more agreeable surprise—sat Clara! He had taken leave of her and Edward, both the night before, and had had no expectation of seeing either of them again for months; for nine o'clock was usually, at this season, their very earliest time of appearing in the morning; but there she was, in her home-like dark-blue merino, presiding over a larger quantity and variety of muffins, eggs, ham, cutlets, fresh butter, corn-bread, toast, tea, coffee, jam, and honey, than the frugal Sally usually found it necessary to administer to her somewhat abstemious consumers in the breakfasts of a whole week. The aspect of the comfortable and hospitable apartment offered a most inspiriting contrast to that of the chill, dusky, lonely chamber which he had just left, disordered with the stir of flitting, and still haunted by the spectres of the night.

Clara was eager to see him do justice to her good cheer. Beginning to do so to please her, his healthy appetite, returning, presently showed what arrears it had to make up; and he went on to please himself, and soon looked and felt a different creature from the hypochondriac dreamer of two hours before, and was conscious of the pleasant stirring within him of a little of the young manly spirit of adventure.

It was going to be his turn now, however, to administer a small portion of consolation. Clara had poured out a cup of milk for herself, and allowed him to put one or two things on her plate; and, if she took very little off, she said that, in order to be quite impartial, she ought to eat half her breakfast with one of her brothers, and the other half with the other. Meanwhile, she blithely pressed him with "Another egg? Yours was tiny enough for a pigeon's. Another cup of tea? Not half a cup? That little brown corner of corn-bread? A spoonful of jam? Let me give you a little more honey, to finish your toast with"—till she could prevail no further, and saw him, in a traveller's bustling fashion, beginning to push back his chair, and compare his repeater with the *Time-piece*, as they called the bronze clock among themselves, from its having a figure of the old destroyer upon it. Then she rose, and moved towards him, checked herself, and turned to the fire, and, pretending to warm her hands, as she squeezed and almost wrung them, said, quite unintentionally—

"Don't you think, Herman, you should find it more convenient to wait, and go to-morrow?"

"Have you never noticed, dear Psyche"—said he, looking up at her, as he pulled on his boots, with a sort of pensive, wistful humor in his face, which peculiarly belonged to it, "It is odd, isn't it?—that, when to-morrow is always so much the most convenient day for doing everything disagreeable, nothing ever actually gets done but what we do to-day?"

She returned his smile as gaily as she knew how; but it so happened that, while she was using all her efforts with her red lips to make them spread that signal of gladness, her bright eyes altogether forgot themselves, and were so heedless as to drop two great diamonds in plain sight. It occurred to selfish Herman, for the first time, that he was not to be the only sufferer from his own departure.

"Why, Clara!" exclaimed he, "O, fie! What are you watering your blue forget-me-nots for?"

He stood holding one of her little hands in each of his. She smiled again, though dimly. Her smile always set bewitching round dimple in her left cheek a perfect kiss-trap. He put his lips to it an instant. She thought they trembled; and that trifling symptom of momentary faltering in his resolution strengthened hers. What a shame, when he had just succeeded in rallying his spirits a little, for her to grieve him again! Could not she wait ten minutes more, send him off in good heart, and then cry as much as she pleased?

"Morning dew-drops make forget-me-nots look all the prettier; have you never noticed that?" said she, archly, finding her voice instantly, and looking bravely and brightly up into his face.

"God bless you! keep the sunshine in yours."

"And when shall we see you come back, with your tanned travelling face, and the horrid shaggy beard you'll catch among the buffaloes?"

"As soon as I can, I think you may be sure. In time for Sea Farm, I hope."

"And, Herman"—the lofty head drooped a little, and hid the exquisite nestling, blushing face among its curls—"what ought I to do while you are gone? I mean about that paper."

He started, hesitated, and looked perplexed. "Clara, you know that I could not answer such a question as that with flattery; but, honestly, the idea never came into my head before, that you could be better than you were; so that I am utterly unprepared with any particular advice to offer you. I never dreamed of your needing any, of any sort, from me. I should think your own sweet womanly instincts, and what you heard at church, might afford you all that you were in want of in the way of human guidance; and it is pretty clear that we must, almost all of us, be left, in great measure, dependent on our Bibles and the answers to our prayers. The plain general rule for you and me, and every Christian man, woman, and child, would seem to be, to love God and one's neighbors—the one supremely, and the other cordially—and to serve them accordingly with genuine loyalty and public spirit; but the form of service, I imagine, must vary as many times as there are many servants. Providence apparently ordains this infinite variety, and probably assigns a different office to each individual, since, in the same family even, and among children born to the same parents and reared under the same roof, scarcely any two persons' means, circumstances, and natural or acquired characteristics, are quite the same. When I come back, we must consider these things further together, and I will help you if I can; you can me, I am sure; and, while I am gone, I shall write, and you will, too, every week, won't you? I'll send you word where to direct."

"Indeed I will, and so shall Ned."

"Don't make rash promises, Miss; keep that one, though, now that it is made. Where in the world is that Gummage?"

Patrick, commonly called behind his back "Gummage"—having earned his *alias* by his fancied resemblance to that pensive "Angel in the House" of Mr. Peggotty—had gone to call a coach, which he had forgotten to do at the proper time. As the bell rang again, and harder, he made his grotesque appearance at the door, in enforced silence, with one of Herman's valises in each hand, and an umbrella in his mouth.

"The coach, there, Patrick? All right. Put them in."

A hurried embrace in the drawing-room; and Clara had let him go, and stood by herself, wondering how she had ever made up her mind to do it. He was shaking hands with Sally in the hall. The horses' bells jingled. She peeped through the window-curtains. He was gone. She proceeded to cry as much as she pleased, according to her *programme*, for a few minutes; but then she heard Edward call for his shaving-water, and it occurred to her that, as it might take her some time to leave off, she had better begin to do so at once. She ran up to her dressing-room, bathed her eyes, fed her canary, hummed the prettiest air she knew, watered her fuchsias and myrtles, and had her sorrows put out of sight, if not out of mind, before that young Sybarite required her to pour out his coffee.

Everybody knows how long a day is, which is begun in this manner. When Patrick had carried off his tea-cups and saucers, and Edward had sauntered away to see if there was anything new and gratifying to be found at the hospital, the room looked strangely empty, dull, and formal. She unlocked her own particular private drawer in the French desk, took out her copy of Herman's paper, and, sitting down in her high-backed low chair, read it once more, as her only present means of hearing from him, and looked from it thoughtfully into the fire. The fire gave her a hint: Certainly. What a comfort it was to have a little light and warmth to turn to on such a snowy, dreary, *home-sick* sort of day. She rose, returned to the desk, took from her pocket-book a bill of some value, enclosed it to one of the city-missionaries, with the simple direction, "For fuel for the poor," gave it to Patrick to deliver, and took up her embroidery, feeling better. The clock ticked; the ashes sifted whispering from the grate; while still she, in a needle-woman's, desultory fashion, pondered, as she wrought, on the contents of the paper. Accustomed, as she had been from earlier times than she could remember, to do as a matter of course whatever she saw that it was proper for her to do, she was well-practiced in the alphabet and *a-b-abs* by which she was now to read the first lessons of a higher obedience. She was not now perplexed by the question, which so often convulses less docile minds when duties present themselves, To do, or not to do? but only by that much less perturbing question, to which an answer may almost always be found by a sincere inquirer, How to do? She was generous and devoted, and lived almost wholly in her affections—her religious affections among the rest, though hitherto they had been much more sentimental than practical. Herman had read to her the evening before, with that awe-struck earnestness of his, which gave such thrilling reality and power to the dead letter, that most solemn and tender declaration, which was henceforth to be the key-note of his life, "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me." Now, if she had had reason to believe that her Saviour himself was in Boston at that time, in sickness, poverty, or any distress which she could relieve, she felt that it would have been impossible for her to content herself, to sit down so indolently day after day in that warm luxurious room, without a single effort in his behalf; but that she must have hurried out with eager inquiries to find him, lavish upon him her superabundance, and do her very utmost to soothe and comfort him. Yet she had been contented to amuse herself thus there day after day, while there was only too much reason to fear that some, whom he would hereafter affectionately welcome as brothers and sisters, must be continually suffering near her, from all those evils, and furthermore from the thoughtless neglect of self-indulgent triflers like her. What should she do about them now? Go out alone and unguided to seek for them? She did not think that that was exactly the thing. She might be imposed upon, and do more harm than good; and, besides, she was pretty sure that Edward would not like it. Perhaps Dr. Brodie would know of some among his poorer patients, who would be the better for some little delicacies, books, or a happy face looking in upon them now and then; and if they needed money, so much the better; for she had a good deal more than she knew what to do with. She would send in for him and his wife to drink tea with her that very evening, and ask him.

Then, model young ladies in edifying English novels taught gratuitously in schools continually. That, again, did not seem precisely the thing for her, everything here was so different. She laughed quietly to herself at the idea of the probable consternation of the teachers of either of the Boston public schools, at the tall apparition of the stylish and fashionable Miss Arden, come in, long after prayers, and in the midst of all the mental arithmetic and so forth, to offer to hear the children say their texts, or to instruct them in the catechism. Another good suggestion! The Kneeland Street Sewing school. She had heard her friend Kate Lee wishing that she had some one to take her class there, while she went for a few weeks to Philadelphia. She would offer her services. Why did she not think of that before? And perhaps she should discover some of the deserving paupers she was in search of among the parents of her pupils. She wrote her two notes to Mrs. Brodie and Miss Lee, and returned to her seat and musings.

She had given a little money, which she did not want. She was going to give a little time. That was all very well; but was it enough? She recollected something which she had once heard her old friend Dr. Lovel say, in a sermon on the high-hearted exclamation of David, when the equally generous Araunah offered him as a gift all that he required for a sacrifice—"Nay, but I will surely buy it of thee at a price. Neither will I offer burnt offerings unto the Lord my God of that which doth cost me nothing." The reverend old gentleman had said that, though in his opinion we were scarcely called upon to sadden our service of God and man by any self-imposed austerities, yet that no Christian, in the most prosperous lot, could thoroughly fulfil all the duties to which Providence called him, without much self-denial. It had puzzled her a little at the time, and did so now much more, as she recurred to it with deeper earnestness. She knew he was much more likely to be right than she; for he had had much experience in his long life, and was a man of much sagacity, as well as of saintly excellence. But she could hardly remember anything in particular that she had considered her duty, which she would not rather do than not.

Suddenly the thought struck her, that she had never been quite so attentive as a good sister ought to be to her sister, Mrs. Flint, and that she had now neither seen nor heard of her for two or three weeks. A struggling sunbeam fell upon the carpet beside her. She heard the snow-shovels without, scraping the brick *side walks*. It was clearing off, though the wind still sounded bleak and bitter. She would put her work away immediately, and take a good, brisk, freshening walk to Blackstone Square, which would be a benefit to two worthy females at once, and most satisfactorily disagreeable to one of them. She was soon safely secreted in her muffling furs and shaggy little snow boots, and on her way.

Her half-sister, Catherine, had been brought up many miles away in the country, by two rustic maternal aunts, who were displeased by Mr. Arden's speedy second marriage, kept her to themselves, and never promoted much intercourse between her and his other children. Her mother had been a rather pleasing exception, in a rather unpleasing, though otherwise unobjectionable family circle. She was a little rustic *belle*, with whom he accidentally tumbled in love when a boy at a boarding-school, and to whom he engaged himself, to the intense disgust of the elder nobles of his house, (the house of Arden, Duke, Jaques, & Company, merchant princes,) and whom he married seven years later from a sense of honor, quite as much as of affection; though he carefully retained a moderate degree of that. The second Mrs. Arden—one of those thoroughly *dear* women, whose pleasure it is to begin at the beginning, and do every one of their duties as graciously and gladly as they do everything else, felt her heart warm towards her husband's little orphan, when, two or three weeks after their marriage, she first heard of her—would fain have taken her for her own; and, failing in that, sent many little gifts and most sweet little notes to her "dear little daughter," never forgetting to insert in them courteous messages to her protectresses, which by degrees mollified them so much, that the child was to have been dispatched to pay her a visit on the very Thanksgiving to which she was returning, when she was killed. After that, there was little more intercourse between Catherine and her father's household, than a formal interchange of letters from him to her, and her to him, once a quarter. She seldom came to town; and when she did so, usually, according to a custom established during the lifetime of the third Mrs. Arden, stayed with an old widow, a cousin of her mother's, at the North End. She felt bashful, awkward, and out of place, in the elegant establishment of her silent and abstracted father, and it never came into her head—she was not original, and nobody had put it into her head—that it would be well for her to endeavor to show an older sister's solicitude and tenderness, and thus repay some part of the debt of gratitude which she owed their mother, to the fair, self-possessed, magnificent boy and girl, who seemed so sufficient to themselves and to one another, and who, when summoned to the parlor to entertain her, did the honors with a mingled ease and reserve which would not have misbecome a prince and princess. Soon after her father's death—as soon, almost, as it was ascertained that he had left her fifty thousand dollars, she was married. Mr. Flint's vulgarity—"not to put too fine a point upon it"—of manner, made him very distasteful to her sister and brothers, and his vulgarity of mind, more particularly so to Herman; while her own rusticity, and the mild, insipid, *eau sucrée* of her appearance and character, offered few counterbalancing attractions to their pampered disrelish of commonplace.

Near relations, however, like coupled hounds, can, from the very stringency of the tie which binds them to each other, scarcely avoid being not quite indifferent to each other; they can take their choice only between being friends or foes. The feeling, which was negative on the part of the calm Ardens, was by this time, after a hardly-conscious succession of slights from them—some real, and some naturally imagined, in consequence—in a fair way to become very positive on the part of Mr. Flint, whom Nature (or, as he would have poetically said, *Natur*) had made a good hater. Catherine's heart was incapable of rancor towards any creature; but its general lukewarmness was certainly growing colder on the side towards her father's family, under the influence of her husband upon her mind, which was of that colorless, chameleon sort, that generally takes its hue of opinion from any other mind at the moment nearest. Matters were thus quite in train for that pretty and creditable thing, a family feud. Clara bestirred herself none too soon; though she never knew or even suspected how much petty annoyance, or worse, was saved to her and hers by her tardy promptness. Who that walks unpricked and unstung in the straight path, ever can discern or calculate the number of briars or scorpions that were lying in wait for his erring foot, on the right hand or on the left?

Mrs. Flint's door was opened to Clara by a wild-looking Irish girl, with smut on her face, suds on her arms, and a rent in her duster-colored apron. She understood the English language but imperfectly—well enough only to tell fibs in it. (When St. Patrick exterminated the reptiles among the shamrocks, did he drop and leave behind the serpent's tongue there? And if so, why?) The Irish dialect was not among the number of Clara's fashionable acquirements. Therefore was the information possessed by the handmaiden elicited but slowly, after the merciful fashion generally in vogue in refined circles, when anybody is doomed to hear a piece of bad news, which consists in the lingering process of piling deliberately up upon one another a sort of ascending scale of dolorous lies, each one a little nearer the heart of the hearer than the last, until at length the truth is brought up to give the final stab—a method similar to that pursued by the ingeniously compassionate imported man-servant of a fellow-citizen of ours, who, when ordered to cut off the tail of his dog, considerately deprived him of it only an inch at a time.

"Miss Flint wa'n't to home. She was engaged most partic'lar. She was sick to her bed, and couldn't see nobody, indade—not if 'twas the Prisidint."

As it was not the President, Clara thought that admittance might perhaps be obtained. She was anxious, and grieved besides. It was a proof and reproof at once of her past remissness, that her own father's daughter should be lying sick so near her, and she know it only by chance; and then be forced to stand thus parleying, a stranger with a stranger, at her door.

"Won't you say it is Miss Arden?"

"Miss Harding?"

"Oh, no; Miss *Arden*. Can't you say it?"

"Yes, sure, Miss."

"Try again, then, and let me hear you."

"Miss Andiron."

"No; say, Mrs. Flint's sister. How unlucky that I did not bring my cards! Be so good as to get me a piece of paper and a pen."

"Is it a pin, Miss?"

"What did you say was the matter with Mrs. Flint?"

"Well, indade, and I think they said it was just the pla-gue, Miss," returned the Orphic Biddy, with a rich specimen of what pedants and pedagogues call "the rising inflection."

Clara could not help laughing; and, partly to hide her mirth, partly to get out of the cold, and partly to help herself to writing materials, swept by her into a dismal little parlor—more dismal than ever now, from its look of desertion—which ordinarily served as a complication of dining-room, drawing-room, and day-nursery. Biddy stood for an instant spell-bound, then crowded in with her, and with much presence of mind locked up the tea-spoons; after which, with an air of expectation, she planted herself in a "come one, come all!" attitude, with her back against the door of the china-closet. Clara in the mean time tore off a piece of the margin of a newspaper, and wrote upon it as well as she could, with a tiny gold pencil, which usually enjoyed quite a sinecure place on her *chatelaine*:

"My Dear Catherine: I have but just heard that you are not well, and I am so sorry. I hope you will let me come up stairs and see if there is not anything I can do for you and the children. I am afraid you must have been very forlorn, shut up in this cold, long storm. I came out on purpose to see you. I can't bear to go home again without knowing exactly how you are, and doing something to make you feel better. Your affectionate sister, C. L. A."

The cordial, simple words were balm to poor Catherine's heart; for she had been feeling very helpless and lonely. Besides, it was always exceedingly difficult for her to say no to anybody or anything.

"Betty," said she, to a prim, homely, anxious-looking child, who was sitting upon the foot of her bed, "It is your dear Aunty Clary. Run down, and ask her to please come right up stairs."

"Tan't we tidy you up first, ma?"

"No, little dear. We mustn't keep dear Aunty waiting. Ask her to please excuse the looks of things, for poor, dear ma is all in a muss."

Betty obediently went, but with a housewifely look of regret round the dark, disordered room, and a straightening pull at the rumpled counterpane. It was very good of her to venture; for she was shy; and, having very seldom seen her Aunt Clara, she was much afraid of facing alone such a vision of mysterious splendor.

Clara was standing, rapt in contemplation of the many little clothes flapping and freezing on the lines in the yard, with the elder Flint's capering among them like a dancing-master in the midst of his pupils, and thinking with compassionate wonder of the many stitches which it must require to make and keep them in order, when she heard a mouse-like squeak at the door. Turning round, she saw the tiny, changeling figure of a child of five years old, upright and stiff, dressed in an ugly, but perfectly neat, *mousseline de laine*, of primitive cut. Her face was sallow, intelligent, and as mature and joyless as that of a care-burdened woman of thirty; her forehead was unbecomingly large and prominent, as were also her dim, bluish-gray eyes; her mouth, just large enough to admit a cherry without crowding, was ruefully drawn down at the corners, and shaped like a caret, as if to signify that her nose was an after-thought, and must not be over-looked—a most unnecessary hint; for it was altogether too big for her, and looked like a grown-up nose snatched in haste, and clapped on her by mistake, from a wardrobe of noses; her cropped black hair was perfectly smooth; and her neck, hands, and arms, clean, but red and chapped with the cold.

"How do you do, dear?" said Clara. "Come and give me a kiss. What have you got to say to Aunt Clara?"

The fairy, coloring with bashful fright, involuntarily retreated a pace, with a musquito-like whisk, as if blown away by the advancing flounces, repeated like a parrot, "ma tays, wont you please walk up tairs, and please not look at her, 'tause she's all in a muss?" and having discharged its conscience of its burden, fled before her face.

Clara glided after, and up the uncarpeted stairway. The house was a large and fine one, which Mr. Flint had taken by the foreclosure of a mortgage from an insolvent premature speculator. Intending to sell it again as soon as the situation should have become fashionable enough to enable him to do so to advantage, he had thought it worth his while to furnish only an absolutely necessary number of rooms in it; and it had an uninhabited, chill, cheerless look and feeling.

[CHAP. VI TO BE CONCLUDED NEXT WEEK.]

Shelley's Library.—Shelley's library was a very limited one. He used to say that a good library consisted not of many books, but a few chosen ones; and, being asked what he considered such, he said: "I'll give you my list—catalogue it can't be called: the Greek Plays, Plato, Lord Bacon's Works, Shakspeare, the Old Dramatists, Milton, Goethe, Schiller, Dante, Petrarch, and Boccacio, Machiavelli, and Guiociardini—not forgetting Calderon; and last, yet first, the Bible. It is not meant that this was all his collection. He had read few English works of the day; scarcely a novel except Walter Scott's, for whose genius he had sovereign respect; Anastasius, by which he thought Lord Byron profited in his Don Juan; and the Promissi Sposi. In speaking of Hope and Manzoni, he said, "that one good novel was enough for any man to write, and he thought both judicious in not risking their fame by a second attempt."

For the National Era.

CHARLES SUMNER.

BY J. B. S. SOULE.

Blest is the man whose trust is founded deep
Within the calmness of a righteous mind;
Like the tossed ship, whose sunken anchors feel
The living rock the dashing waves conceal,
But with unyielding grasp the treasure bind,
While fearful tempests o'er the ocean sweep!
The outward eye may fill with sorrow's tears,
The shaded brow some secret pain confess,
And e'en the heart be tremulous with fears,
Or pine beneath a sense of loneliness.
Conspiring foes may struggle to oppress
The over-burdened spirit—but despair
Shall never gain a habitation there!
Oppression guards and fortifies her wrongs
With iron manacles and clanking chains,
The torturing screw and the tormenting tongs,
And every dark invention that belongs
To her infernal policy of pains.
But warring with eternal hatred, Might,
Though clad in triple armor, and obeyed
By all the harnessed slaves his power hath made,
Shall never sing a pæan over Right,
Till Impotence subdues the Infinite.
And he who battles in a righteous cause,
Though smitten early in the holy strife,
Dies nobler than the Spartan for his laws,
Or all the slain of Greek or Punic wars;
For daring thus to lose, he findeth Life.

LIFE IN PARIS.

Paris, *July 8*, 1858.

The Minister of Interior and the Press—Prince Napoleon, Minister of Algiers and the Colonies—The Camp at Chalon visited by the Emperor—A Pamphlet entitled Napoleon III and the Roumain Principalities—Austria Becoming Liberal—Prospects of a Mercantile Revival—The Weather—Fashions—The German School System Recommended in France.

To the Editor of the National Era:

Since my last, Monsieur Delangle, Minister of Interior, has assumed the duties of his department, and his administration is already felt to be one of a less rigorous surveillance of the press. Some days after his appointment, the *Independance Belge* was again allowed to come into France; the daily paper, *La Presse*, sold in the streets; and it is said that the cords which now completely gag the press will be somewhat loosened.

Prince Napoleon, of whom I have several times made mention as viceroy of Algiers, has instead been placed at the head of a separate and new department, that of Algiers and the Colonies, by the means of which it is hoped that much good will be the result for Algiers, until now entirely under the sway of military power. The Prince has surrounded himself by the most talented and influential of his friends, among the most prominent of which, as I before stated, stands Mons. de Girardin.

The Emperor, on his way to Plombiers, spent some time at the Camp of Chalon, where permanent barracks have been erected for the accommodation of 50,000 troops, which might indicate a continued preference for military institutions, or some great scheme of war, in all probability, with Austria.

A few days past, the public and the Bourse were thrown into commotion by the appearance of a pamphlet, entitled "Napoleon III and the Roumain Principalities," which doubtless emanates from the same pen as the famous pamphlet, "Emperor Napoleon and England." In the former, France takes the part of the Principalities, determined to carry out the proposed union, in defiance of Austria and its allies. This savors strongly of a declaration of war with the house of Hapsburg. The Austrians are furious against Napoleon, and acquainted with the doings of Russia in the Montenegrin affairs, and with the danger from over the Rhine; she is busily engaged in her Polish provinces, proclaiming the news that Austria and England are determined to re-establish the kingdom of Poland, thereby to increase the animosity of the inhabitants of Russian Poland against the Czar, in order to compel Russia to concentrate her forces at that point; furthermore, to prevent her from supporting the movements on the Danube.

Austria has also found it necessary to manifest more liberality to gain favor with the Germans, by granting certain privileges to the press, and promising reforms; whilst, on the other hand, she flatters the Church by allowing the re-establishment of monasteries to an incredible extent, the suppression of which, a century ago, hastened the close of Joseph II's career. Something is brewing, you may rest assured, and it would seem that the time is not far distant when an irruption must take place.

A few orders from the United States, recently given for goods, is held up as an infallible indication of approaching mercantile activity, and the Government organs are indefatigable in the propagation of that much-exaggerated good news, to quiet the unemployed laborers, who have nothing better in prospect than starvation or crime—and though the crops are good, provisions continue very dear. Harvesting is in progress; the rye is cut and secured in this region, and the wheat is already reaped in the south. The result of the harvest in France promises to be unusually fine, but in Germany it is not so encouraging; the scarcity of rain has greatly injured the crops; the smaller rivers are nearly dried up, and in some districts the wells and springs are entirely exhausted.

The news of the rupture of the Atlantic cable has caused a feeling of great disappointment here. All hope is not yet, however, extinguished, and I do not despair sooner or later of seeing the fresh and powerful electric spark of the *New World* galvanizing the superannuated carcass of the old.

The weather has undergone a great change in Paris within the last five or six days, the temperature having fallen to 67 of Fahrenheit, with a certain amount of wind, accompanied by occasional showers. The same alteration has been felt some thirty or forty leagues round, with the prospect, if not too long continued, of considerable eventual benefit to the agriculturist.

The patterns of taffetas are much varied this season. Large flowers and tartans, checks, narrow stripes, vertical and horizontal; dots, spots, and stars, are, however, more in favor than the two first-mentioned styles. The figures are frequently the same color as the ground, but of a different shade. Drab grounds, with brown, pink, green, and blue designs, are greatly in favor. They are made as usual, in various ways—sometimes a high body with basques trimmed with ruches; sometimes a body with a narrow basque, shaped into four points, buttoned in front, and trimmed half way, from the waist upwards, with *cordelières* (plaits of silk cord festooned across the chest, and fastened on either side with an ornamental button and tassels of various shapes, spindle-like and others) and quilling *à la vieille*. Quilting and mohair dresses are still made with very long basques; or, we might say, with long casaques, the sleeves being pagoda, opened up the front. At the sea shore and in the country they are considered indispensable for morning toilette. The casaques are made longer, though in other respects precisely as they were last year, bound with white figured binding, or a silk binding to suit the dress, if not made of wash materials. The skirts are sometimes *a quilles*, or trimmed *en tablier*, with rich embroidery in chain-stitch or braid, mixed with ball fringes. For young ladies' *toilette de ville*, when the weather is fine, thin white muslins, dotted with white or colored, are most fashionable, and very suitable for the season. Mantillas and bonnets are made of the same. Narrow flounces are not yet discarded; and although double skirts are so much worn, very wide plain skirts are the most *distingués*. The sleeves of muslin dresses are also worn very wide, with puffs at the top, or quite flat and open up the front of the arm, where a bow is sometimes placed. Décolté bodies are frequently made, buttoned up in front, sometimes with four points; with plain or gathered waists there is always a point in front, to be worn with a belt, fastened in front with a small diamond or steel buckle. Straw bonnets are yet much worn, trimmed with black, mixed with colors. White ribbon, striped with pink, green, or lilac, is, however, much used, and has a summer-like and fresh appearance. What can be more charming than a rice-straw bonnet, edged with pale blue, pink, lilac, or cherry, and trimmed with a tulle scarf, carried across the crown, and fastened at one side by a bunch of delicate flowers, and a small wreath of the same flowers under the brim, across the forehead? Leghorns for married ladies are much worn in visiting dress, and are made with a curtain of the same, trimmed with a long feather, either rooster or ostrich, of the same color as the dress; when with the latter, it should be accompanied by a small curled feather inside.

The ladies at Fontainebleau appeared in the fashions of the time of Louis XIV, not omitting the small cane, and they are wearing round hats, either of felt or straw, trimmed with feathers, red, white, green, blue, &c. The chapeau Valois is, however, most in favor, and is certainly more becoming and elegant than the round hat.

Sandal wood is now much in use for the handles of parasols; and, as it has an agreeable perfume, must be considered a good exchange. The most *recherché* are still covered with lace. Tortoise-shell handles, or rhinoceros horn, with gold plates, or spotted with silver, are also very fashionable. The most desirable fans are also made of sandal wood, spangled on crape or silk. White lace veils, dotted and edged with black, are light, seasonable, and elegant. Mantillas, made either of white muslin or black silk, are worn shawl shaped, with deep flounces of the same, or lace.

La Presse recently recommended the school system adopted in Germany, where the number of children who cannot read and write is naught. Whereas in France it amounts to 500,000, and in England to 1,000,000. Besides, says the same journal, the children who go to school in France do not learn much, for they are not regular in their attendance at school.

For the National Era.

TO THE YOUTH WHO READ THE NATIONAL ERA.

Thirty years ago, I was a little boy, like some of you. I then lived in Ireland. You all know where that is; for, in this country, you all study geography at school; and almost every child that can read has seen an atlas; so that many little children have a correct idea of distant countries. It was not so with me. I had never seen a map. My idea was that the world consisted of four great islands, Ireland, England, Scotland, and America. I always heard that America was extensive; so I thought it larger than England or Scotland, but it never entered into my head that it might be as great as Ireland. I had sometimes heard of Asia and Africa, but thought them of little account.

I was born on the banks of "Bonnie Bann," so the poet called it; but he need not have used the epithet "bonnie," as the name "Bann" signifies the same thing. It well deserved the name of handsome, for the spotted trout and active pike sported in the clear waters that flowed along its pebbly bed. The graceful swan, venturing up from Lough Neagh, sometimes dimpled its smooth stream with her white, arching neck. Its sloping banks waved with green corn (oats) the whole summer long; for, in that cool climate, the grain sown in March was harvested in October. And its holmes (flats) were white with fine linen webs, bleaching for the foreign market.

The first great event in my life occurred when I was about four years of age. I had two brothers older than myself, who went to school to a teacher named McIlvain. He was considered a half fool, but he had sense enough to whip the scholars well.

When my brothers would come home, I would ask the younger, "Wur ye bate much the day, William?"

"O, aye," was often the answer, "when I would have done saying my lesson, the master would take me up and beat me, till you would hear crying at Debby Hanna's."

Where Debby Hanna lived, I did not know, but I supposed it was at least half a mile from the school-house. This frightened me so, I would not go to him. At length, through the exertions of an association in Dublin, called the "Kildare street society," the schools in Ireland were placed on a better footing, and Mr. McIlvain had to yield his place to James Moore, who had passed the Board of Inspectors in Dublin.

On the first morning that he commenced, my father, a little Roman-nosed, gray-eyed, energetic Irishman, took me on his back, and started for school. Every man he met, he asked, "Is the new maisther come?" until the uniform answer, "Aye," assured me that all was well. I soon got in good spirits, as well I might. I was under no apprehension of being whipped, my pockets were full of hard oaten-cake, I had a beautiful paddle with the alphabet pasted on it, and I had an idea my father would stay all day with me. In the last anticipation, however, I was doomed to a grevious disappointment.

Nor was this the only disappointment I experienced at school, for I soon learned that, however superior to Mr. McIlvain the present teacher might be in common sense and education, he had the same ideas about discipline. He had about as much Yankee tact in mingling pleasantry with firmness, and making dry studies agreeable, as a hog has of politeness. The tawse with him, like patent pills with us, was a remedy for all diseases. It was only when he was drunk that his brow relaxed into good humor, to give him a joke and us a laugh. But, as he was a respectable man and a member of the Presbyterian church, that occurred but seldom, and we were sorry for it.

We sat six weary hours in school without noon or recess. In lieu of dinner, any one might eat a bite at any time without leaving his seat. We might study as loud as we could whisper, but to have any communication or even to look off the book, was considered a punishable offence—a rule which was either enforced or neglected, according to the leisure of the teacher.

Irish Jamie.

A gentleman, feeling a great partiality for a young lady, whose name was Noyes, was desirous, without the ceremony of a formal courtship, to ascertain her sentiments. For this purpose he said to her, one day, with that kind of air and manner which means either jest or earnest, as you choose to take it:

"If I were to ask you whether you were under matrimonial engagements to any one, what part of your name (No-yes) might I take for an answer?"

"The first," said she, in the same tone, for an answer.

"And were I to ask you if you were inclined to form such an engagement, should such person offer who loved you, and was not indifferent to yourself, what part of your name might be then taken as an answer?"

"The last."

"And if I tell you that I love you, and ask you to form such an engagement with *me*, then what part of your name may I take?"

"O, then," replied the blushing girl, "take the *whole name*, as in such case I would cheerfully resign it for yours."

It is almost needless to add that they were soon afterwards married.

MISCELLANEOUS.

In and Out of Office.—Lord Lyndhurst—the Boston Lord—tells a good story apropos of his surrender of the Great Seal, in 1848, showing the relative importance of the Ins and Outs.

"When I went to the palace," says his Lordship, "I alighted at the grand stair-case; I was received by the sticks gold and silver, and other officers of the household, who called, in sonorous tones, from landing to landing, and apartment to apartment, 'Room for the Lord High Chancellor of England;' I entered the presence chamber; I gave the seals to her Majesty; I had the honor of kissing her hand; I left the apartment by another door, and found myself on a back stair-case, down which I descended without any one taking any notice of me, until, as I was looking for my carriage at the outer door, a lacquey bustled up, and, with a patronizing air, said—

"Lord Lyndhurst, can I do anything for you?"

Mrs. Partington's Visit to the Tented Field.—"Did the guard present arms to you, Mrs. Partington?" asked a commissary, as he met her at the entrance of the marquee. "You mean the century?" said she, smiling. "I have heard so much about the tainted field, that I believe I could deplore an attachment into line myself, and secure them as well as an officer. You asked me if the guard presented arms. He didn't, but a sweet little man, with an epilepsy on his shoulder and a smile on his face, did, and asked me if I wouldn't go into a tent and smile. I told him that we could both smile as well outside, when he politely touched his chateau, and left me."

The commissary presented a hard wooden stool upon which she reposed herself.

"This is one of the seats of war, I suppose?" said she. "Oh, what a hard lot a soldier is objected to! I don't wonder a mite at the hardening influence of a soldier's life. What is that for?" asked she, as the noise of a cannon saluted her ear. "I hope they ain't firing on my account." There was a solicitude in her tone as she spoke, and she was informed that it was only the Governor, who had just arrived upon the field. "Dear me!" said she, "how cruel it is to make the old gentleman come away down here, when he is so feeble he has to take his staff with him wherever he goes." She was so affected at the idea, that she had to take a few drops of white wine to restore her equilibrium, and to counteract the dust from the "tainted field."—*Boston Post.*

The Politician's Substitute.—When Col. F——— was a candidate for Congress, in one of the Northwestern States, he was opposed by a gentleman who had distinguished himself in the war of 1812. Discovering, in the course of the canvass, that his opponent's military reputation was operating strongly to his own prejudice, he concluded to let the people know that he was not unknown to fame as a soldier himself; and accordingly, in his next speech, he expatiated on his achievements in the tented field as follows:

"My competitor has told you of the services he rendered the country in the last war. Let me tell you that I, too, acted an humble part in that memorable contest. When the tocsin of war summoned the chivalry of the West to rally to the defence of the national honor, I, fellow citizens, animated by that patriotic spirit which glows in every American bosom, *hired a substitute for that war, and the bones of that man now lie bleaching on the banks of the Raisin!*"

A Remarkable Clock.—Henry C. Wright, in a letter to the *Liberator*, thus describes the great clock in the cathedral of Strasburg:

"The priests and military have retired, and I am now sitting in a chair facing the gigantic clock—from the bottom to the top, not less than 100 feet, and about 30 feet wide, and fifteen deep. Around me are many strangers, waiting to see the working of this clock as it strikes the hour of noon. Every eye is upon the clock. It now wants five minutes of twelve. The clock has struck, and the people are gone, except a few whom the sexton or head man with a wand and sword is conducting round the building. The clock has struck in this way: The dial is some 20 feet from the floor, on each side of which is a cherub, or little boy, with a mallet, and over the dial is a small bell; the cherub on the left strikes the first quarter, that on the right the second quarter. Some fifty feet over the dial, in a large niche, is a huge figure of Time, a bell in his left, a scythe in his right hand. In front stands a figure of a young man with a mallet, who strikes the third quarter, on the bell in the hand of Time, and then turns and glides, with a slow step, round behind Time, comes out an old man with a mallet, and places himself in front of him.

As the hour of twelve comes, the old man raises his mallet and deliberately strikes twelve times on the bell, that echoes through the building, and is heard all round the region of the church. The old man glides slowly behind Father Time, and the young man comes on readily to perform his part, as the time comes round again. Soon as the old man has struck twelve and disappeared, another set of machinery is put in motion, some twenty feet higher still. It is thus: there is a high cross with the image of Christ on it. The instant twelve is struck, one of the apostles walks out from behind, comes in front, turns, facing the cross, bows, and walks on around to his place. As he does so another comes out in front, turns, bows, and passes in. So twelve apostles, figures as large as life, walk round, bow, and pass on. As the last appears, an enormous cock, perched on the pinnacle of the clock, slowly flaps its wings, stretches forth its neck, and crows three times, so loud as to be heard outside the church to some distance, and so naturally as to be taken for a real cock. Then all is silent as death. No wonder this clock is the admiration of Europe. It was made in 1571, and has performed these mechanical wonders ever since, except about fifty years, when it stood out of repair."

The Chameleon.—Mr. Buckland seems attentively to have observed that singular creature, the chameleon:

"I had a couple at Oxford," he writes, "and tried several experiments, placing them on different colored cloths; the variety of colors they can assume is not very great. They unfortunately soon died, my servant having put the box in which they were kept in a very cold place. They were very passionate creatures. Mr. Madden writes: 'I trained two large chameleons to fight; I could at any time, by knocking their tails against one another, insure a combat, during which their change of color was most conspicuous. This change is only effected by paroxysms of rage, when the dark green gall of the animal is transmitted into the blood, and is visible enough under its pellucid skin. The reason here given to account for the change of color is not very satisfactory. It has been said elsewhere to be caused by the injection of the blood-vessels of the skin; but Mr. Queckett tells us that he has injected many chameleons, but has not found the blood-vessels of the skin by any means numerous or capable of dilation.'"—P. 41.

The change of color to which the chameleon is liable seems dependent on excitement and health, and in a great measure on climate; but the cause of the phenomenon is obscure, and by no means determined. But this singular creature is characterized by a much more remarkable peculiarity than its varied and changing color. It seems not to be homogeneous; at least, betwixt the two sides of the body there seems a lack of sympathy. One eye may be looking straight forward, while the other is looking as directly backward. One may be entirely asleep, while the other is wide awake. And this kind of independent and separate action applies to each side of this creature—to its limbs. It cannot swim, because its limbs refuse to act in concert. Could the two sides understand one another, and agree on a prescribed course of action, it might always be awake, or half awake. But it gains nothing by its unilateral independency; the two sides are like two horses that won't work in harness. It seems strange, with such a peculiarity, that on trees or *terra firma* the creature should be able to make any progress; but as the two sides are fed by one mouth, and as the insect tribes refuse to come to it, so they seem, in regard to all culinary matters, to agree to sink their differences, and to move in harmony. The stomach is a potent harmonizer, and thus a divided and obstinate jury are often starved into a unanimous verdict.

THE PATAGONIAN BROTHERS.

We are not related. His name is John Griffiths, and I am William Waldur; and we call ourselves the Patagonian Brothers, because it looked well in the bills, and pleased the public. We met by chance about six years since, on the race-course at Doncaster, and so took a sort of mutual liking, and went partners in a tour through the midland counties. I knew nothing of his past life, nor he of mine, and I never asked him a question on the subject. I am particular to have this all clear from the beginning; for I am a plain man, telling a plain story, and I want no one to misunderstand a word of what I am about to relate.

We made a little money by our tour. It was not much, but it was more than either of us had been able to earn before; so we agreed to stay together, and try our fortune in London. This time we got an engagement at Astley's for the winter, and, when the summer came, joined a travelling circus, and roamed about as before.

The circus was a capital thing—a republic, so to say, in which all were equals. We had a manager, to whom we paid a fixed salary, and the rest went shares in the profits. There were times when we did not even clear our expenses; there were towns where we made ten and fifteen pounds a night; but the bad luck went along with the good; on the whole, we prospered.

We stayed with the company two years and a half in all, and played at every town between York and London. During that time, we had found leisure to improve. We knew each other's weight and strength now to a hair, and grew bolder with experience; so that there was scarcely a new feat brought out anywhere which we did not learn, even to the "perche" business, and the trick of walking, head downward, on a marble ceiling. The fact is, we were admirably matched, which, in our profession, is the most important point of all. Our height was the same, to the sixteenth of an inch, and we were not unlike in figure. If Griffiths possessed a little more muscular strength, I was the more active, and that difference was in our favor. I believed that, in other respects, we suited each other equally well; and I know that, for three years and a half, which we had spent together, (counting from our first meeting at Doncaster down to the time when we dissolved partnership with the circus folks,) we never had an angry word. Griffiths was a steady, saving, silent fellow enough, with little gray eyes, and heavy black brows. I remember thinking, once or twice, that he was not quite the sort of person I would like for an enemy; but that was in reference to no act of his, and only a fancy of my own. For myself, I can live with any one who is disposed to live with me, and love peace and good will better than anything in the world.

We had now grown so expert that we resolved to better ourselves, and return to London, which we did somewhere about the end of February or the beginning of March, 1855. We put up at a little inn in the borough; and, before a week was over, found ourselves engaged by Mr. James Rice, of the Belvidere tavern, at a salary of seven pounds a week. Now, this was a great advance upon all our previous gains, and the tavern was by no means a bad place for the founding of a theatrical reputation.

Situated half way between the west end and the city, surrounded by a densely-populated neighborhood, and lying in the very path of the omnibuses, this establishment was one of the most prosperous of its class. There was a theatre, and a concert-room, and a garden, where dancing, and smoking, and rifle shooting, and supper-eating, were going on from eight till twelve o'clock every night all through the summer, which made the place a special favorite with the working classes.

Here, then, we were engaged, (Griffiths and I,) with a promise that our salary should be raised, if we proved attractive; and raised it soon was, for we drew enormously. We brought out the perche and the ceiling business; came down in the midst of fireworks, from a platform higher than the roof of the theatre; and, in short, did everything that ever yet was done in our line—ay, and did it well, too, though perhaps it is not my place to say so. At all events, the great colored posters were pasted up all over the town, and our salary was increased to fifteen pounds a week; and the gentleman who writes about the plays in the *Sunday Snub* was pleased to observe that there was no performance in London half so wonderful as that of the Patagonian Brothers, for which I take this opportunity to thank him kindly.

We lodged (of course together) in a quiet street, on a hill near Islington. The house was kept by Mrs. Morrison, a respectable, industrious woman, whose husband had been a gas-fitter at one of the theatres, and who was now left a widow with one only daughter, just nineteen years of age. She was very good, and very pretty. She was christened Alice, but her mother called her Ally, and we soon fell into the same habit; for they were very simple, friendly people, and we were soon as good friends as if we had all been living together in the same house for years.

I am not a good hand at telling a story, as I dare say you have found out by this time—and, indeed, I never did sit down to write one out before—so I may as well come to the point at once, and confess that I loved her. I also fancied, before many months were over, that she did not altogether dislike me; for a man's wits are twice as sharp when he is in love, and there is not a blush, or a glance, or a word, that he does not contrive to build some hope upon. So one day, when Griffiths was out, I went down stairs to the parlor, where she was sitting by the window, sewing, and took a chair beside her.

"Ally, my dear," said I, stopping her right hand from working, and taking it up in both of mine. "Ally, my dear, I want to speak to you."

She blushed, and turned pale, and blushed again, and I felt the pulses in her little soft hand throbbing like the heart of a frightened bird, but she never answered a syllable.

"Ally, my dear," said I, "I am a plain man. I am thirty-two years of age. I don't know how to flatter like some folks, and I have had very little book learning to speak of. But, my dear, I love you; and though I don't pretend that you are the first girl I ever fancied, I can truly say you are the first I ever cared to make my wife. So, if you'll take me, such as I am, I'll be a true husband to you as long as I live."

What answer she made, or whether she spoke at all, is more than I can undertake to tell, for my ideas were all confused, and I only remember that I kissed her, and felt very happy, and that when Mrs. Morrison came into the room, she found me with my arm clasped round my darling's waist. I scarcely know when it was that I first noticed the change in John Griffiths; but that it was somewhere about this time, I am tolerably certain. It is hard to put looks into words, and to make account of trifles that, after all, are matters of feeling more than matters of fact; but others saw the change as well as myself, and no one could help observing that he grew to be more silent and unsociable than ever; he kept away from home as much as possible. He spent all Sunday out, starting away the first thing after breakfast, and not coming back again till close upon midnight. He even put an end to our old friendly custom of walking home together after our night's work was over, and joined a sort of tap-room club that was kept up by a dozen or so of idle fellows, belonging to the theatre. Worse than this, he scarcely exchanged a word with

us from morning till night, even when we were at meals. He watched me about the room as if I had been a thief. And sometimes, though I am sure I never wronged him willingly in my life, I caught him looking at me from under those black brows of his, as if he hated me.

More than once I laid my hand upon his sleeve as he was hurrying away on Sunday, or turning off toward the club room at night, and said, "Griffiths, have you got anything against me?"—or, "Griffiths won't you come home to a friendly glass with me to-night?" But he either shook me off without a word, or muttered some sulky denial that sounded more like a curse than a civil answer; so I got tired of peace-making at last, and let him go his own way, and choose his own company.

The summer was already far advanced, and our engagement at the Belvidere had well nigh ended, when I began to buy furniture, and Ally to prepare her wedding things. Matters continued the same with John Griffiths; but, when the day was fixed, I made up my mind to try him once again, and invite him to the church and the dinner. The circumstances of that invitation are as clear in my memory as if the whole affair had taken place this morning.

It was on the twenty-ninth of July, (I am particular about dates,) and there had been a general call to rehearsal at one o'clock that day. The weather was warm and hazy, and I started early, that I might not go in late or tired; for I knew that, what with the rehearsal and the new piece, and the Terrific Descent, I should have enough to do before my day's work was over. The consequence was, that I arrived about twenty minutes too soon. The gardens had a dreary look by daylight; but they were pleasanter, anyhow, than the theatre; so I loitered up and down among the smoky trees, and watched the waiters polishing the stains off the table in the summer-houses, and thought how shabby the fountains looked when they were not playing, and what miserable gimcrack concerns were Stalactite Caves and the Cosmoramic Grottoes, and all the other attractions which looked so fine by the light of colored lamps and fireworks.

Well, just as I was sauntering on, turning those things over in my mind, whom should I see in one of the summer-houses but John Griffiths. He was lying forward upon the table, with his face resting upon his clasped hands, sound asleep. An empty ale bottle and glass stood close beside him, and his stick had fallen near his chair. I could not be mistaken in him, though his face was hidden; so I went up and touched him smartly on the shoulder.

"A fine morning, John," says I. "I thought I was here early; but it seems that you were before me, after all."

He sprang to his feet at the sound of my voice, as if he had been struck, and then turned impatiently away.

"What did you wake me for?" he said, sullenly.

"Because I have news to tell you. You know that the 6th of August will be our last night here. Well, mate, on the 7th, please God, I'm going to be married, and"——

"Curse you!" he interrupted, turning a livid face upon me, and an eye that glared like a tiger's. "Curse you! How dare you come to me with that tale, you smooth-faced hound—to me, of all men living?"

I was so little prepared for this burst of passion, that I had nothing to say; and so he went on.

"Why can't you let me alone? What do you tempt me for? I've kept my hands off of you till now."

He paused and bit his lip, and I saw that he was trembling from head to foot. I am no coward—it's not likely that I should be a Patagonian Brother if I was—but the sight of his hatred seemed to turn me for the moment quite sick and giddy.

"My God!" said I, leaning up against the table, "what do you mean? Are you mad?"

He made me no answer; but looked straight at me, and then walked away. I don't know how it was, but from that moment I knew all. It was written somehow in his face.

"Oh, Ally, dear!" I said to myself, with a groan, and sat down on the nearest bench; I believe that at that moment I scarcely knew where I was, or what I was doing.

I did not see him again till we met on the stage, about an hour afterward, to go through our scene in the rehearsal. It was a grand Easter piece, with a great deal of firing, and real water, and a living camel in the last act; and Griffiths and I were Mozambique slaves, performing before the Rajah in the Hall of Candelabras. Excepting that it cost a great deal of money, that is all I ever knew about the plot; and, upon my word, I don't believe that anybody else knew much more. By this time I had, of course, recovered my usual composure; but I could see that Griffiths had been drinking, for his face was flushed and his balance unsteady. When the rehearsal was over, Mr. Rice called us into his private room, and brought out a decanter of sherry, with which, I must say, he was always as liberal as any gentleman could be.

"Patagonians," says he, for he had a wonderfully merry way with him, and always called us by that name, "I suppose you would make no objection to a little matter of extra work and extra pay on the sixth—just to end the season with something stunning—hey?"

"No, no, sir, not we," replied Griffiths, in a sort of hearty manner, that wasn't natural to him. "We're ready for anything. Is it the flying business you spoke about the other day?"

"Better than that," said the manager, filling up the glasses. "It's a new French feat that has never yet been done in this country, and they call it the trapeze. Patagonians, your health!"

So we drank his in return, and Mr. Rice explained all about it. It was to be an exhibition of posturing and a balloon ascent all in one. At some distance below the car was to be secured a triangular wooden framework, which framework was called the trapeze. From the lower pole, or base of this triangle, one of us was to be suspended, with a ligature of strong leather attached to his ankle, in case of accidents. Just as the balloon was rising, and this man ascended head downwards, the other was to catch him by the hands and go up also, having, if he preferred it, some band or other to bind him to his *companion*. In this position we were then to go through our customary performances, continuing them so long as the balloon remained in sight.

"All this," said Mr. Rice, "sounds much more dangerous than it really is. The motion of a balloon through the air is so steady and imperceptible, that, but for the knowledge of being above the housetops, you will perform almost as comfortably as in the gardens. Besides, I am speaking to brave men, who know their business, and are not to be dashed by a trifle—hey, Patagonians?"

Griffiths brought his hand down heavily upon the table, and made the glasses ring again.

"I'm ready, sir," said he, with an oath. "I'm ready to do it alone, if any man is here is afraid to go with me!"

He looked at me as he said this, with a sort of mocking laugh that brought the blood up into my face.

"If you mean that for me, John," said I, quickly, "I am no more afraid than yourself, and, if that's all about it, I'll go up to night!"

If I was to try from now till this day next year, I never could describe the expression that came over his face as I spoke those words. It seemed to turn all the currents of my blood. I could not understand it then—but I understood it well enough afterward.

Well, Mr. Rice was mightily pleased to find us so willing, and a very few more words ended the matter. Mr. Staines and his famous Wurtemburg balloon were to be engaged; fifteen hundred additional colored lamps were to be hired; and Griffiths and I were to receive twelve pounds apiece for the evening, over and above our general salary.

Poor Ally! In the midst of the excitement, I had forgotten her, and it was not till I was out of the theatre, and walking slowly homeward, that I remembered she must be told. For my part, I did not believe there was the slightest danger; but I knew how her fears would magnify everything, and the nearer I came toward Islington, the more uncomfortable I felt. After all, I was such a coward—for I always am a coward where women are concerned—that I could not tell her that day, nor even the next; and it was only on Sunday, when we were sitting together after dinner, that I found courage to speak of it. I had expected something of a scene; but I had no idea that she would have taken on as she did; and I declare that, even then, if the posters had not been already out, and myself bound in honor to act up to my engagement, I would have gone straight to Mr. Rice, and declined the business altogether. Poor, little, soft-hearted darling! it was a sore trial to her and to me also, and I was an inconsiderate idiot not to have thought of her feelings in the first instance. But there was no help for it now; so I gave her the only consolation in my power, by solemnly promising that I would be the first man tied to the trapeze. It was, of course the safest position, and when I assured her of this, she grew calmer. On all other points I kept my own counsel, as you may be certain; and as to John Griffiths, I saw less of him than ever. He even took his meals in the city now, and during the seven days that elapsed between the twenty-ninth and the sixth, he never once came face to face with me, except upon the stage.

I had a hard matter to get away from home when the afternoon of the sixth came around. My darling clung about me as if her heart would break, and although I did my best to cheer her, I don't mind confessing now that I went out and cried a tear or two in the passage.

"Keep up your spirits, Ally, dear," says I, smiling, and kissed her the last thing before I left the house. "And don't be spoiling your pretty eyes in that way. Remember I want you to look well, and that we are to be married to-morrow."

The multitude in the Belvidere Gardens was something wonderful. There they were, men, women, and children, thronging the balconies, the orchestra stairs, and every available inch of ground; and there, in the midst of them, rolled and swayed the Wurtemburg balloon, like a sleepy, rolling giant. The ascent was fixed for six o'clock, that we might come down again by daylight; so I made haste to dress, and then went to the green room to see after Mr. Rice, and learn something of what was going forward.

Mr. Rice was there, and three gentlemen with him, namely, Colonel Steward, Captain Crawford, and Sydney Baird, Esq. They were fine, handsome-looking gentlemen, all three—especially Sydney Baird, Esq., who was, as I have since been told, a play writer, and one of the cleverest men of the day. I was going to draw back, when I saw them sitting there with their wine and cigars; but they would have me in, to take a glass of port, and shook hands with me all round, as polite as possible, and treated me as handsome as any gentlemen could.

"Here's health and success to you, my brave fellow," says Colonel Steward, "and a pleasant trip to us all." And then I found that they were going up in the car with Mr. Staines.

And now, what with their light, cheerful ways, and pleasant talking, and what with the glass of wine that I had taken, and the excitement, and the hum of voices from the crowd outside, I was in first-rate spirits, and as impatient to be off as a racer at the starting-point. Presently one of the gentlemen looked at his watch.

"What are we waiting for?" said he. "It is ten minutes past six, already."

And so it was. Ten minutes past the hour, and Griffiths had not been seen or heard of. Well, Mr. Rice grew very uneasy, and the crowd very noisy, and so twenty minutes more went by. Then we made up our minds to go without him, and Mr. Rice made a little speech, and explained it to the people; and then there was a cheer, and a great bustle; and the gentlemen took their seats in the car; and a hamper full of champaigne and cold chicken was put in with them; and I was made fast by one leg to the base of the trapeze, and Mr. Staines was just about to get in himself, and give the signal to cut loose, when who should we see, forcing his way through the crowd, but Griffiths.

Of course, there was another cheer at this, and a delay of eight or ten minutes more while he was dressing. At last he came, and it was just a quarter to seven o'clock. He looked very sullen when he found he was to be the undermost; but there was no time to change anything now, even if I had been willing; so his left wrist and my right were bound together by a leathern strap, the signal was given, the band struck up, the crowd applauded like mad, and the balloon rose straight and steady above the heads of the people.

Down sank the trees and the fountains, and the pavement of upturned faces. Down sank the roof of the theatre, and fainter grew the sound of the hurraing and the music. The sensation was so strange, that for the first moment I was forced to close my eyes, and felt as if I must fall, and be dashed to pieces. But that soon passed away, and by the time we had risen to about three hundred feet, I was as comfortable as if I had been born and bred in the air, with my head downward.

Presently we began our performances. Griffiths was as cool as possible—I never saw him cooler—and we went through every conceivable attitude; now swinging by our hands, now by our feet, now throwing summersaults, one over the other. And during the whole of the time the streets and squares seemed to sink away to the right, and the noise from the living world died on the air; and as I turned and swung, changing my position with every minute, I caught strange flitting glimpses of the sunset and the city, the sky and the river, the gentlemen leaning over the car, and the tiny passengers swarming down below, like ants on an ant-hill.

Then the gentlemen grew tired of leaning over, and began to talk and laugh, and busy themselves over their hamper. Then the Surry hills drew nearer, and the city sank away to the right, further and further. Then there were nothing but green fields, with lines of railway crossing them here and there; and presently it grew quite damp and misty, and we ceased to see anything, except through breaks and openings in the clouds.

"Come, John," says I, "our share of this business is done. Don't you think we might as well be getting in the car?"

He was hanging below just then, holding on by my two hands, and had been hanging so quiet for some minutes. He did not seem to hear me; and no wonder, for the clouds were gathering about us so thickly, that even the voices of the gentlemen up above grew muffled, and I could hardly see for a yard before me in any direction. So I called to him again, and repeated the question.

He made no answer, but shifted his grasp from my hand to my wrist, and then up to the middle of my arm, so raising himself by degrees, till our faces came nearly on a level. There he paused, and I felt his hot breath on my cheek.

"William Waldur," said he, hoarsely, "wasn't to-morrow to have been your wedding-day?"

Something in the tone of his voice, in the question, in the dusk and dreadful solitude, struck me with horror. I tried to shake off his hands, but he held too fast for that.

"Well, what if it was?" said I, after a moment. "You needn't grip so hard. Catch hold of the pole, will you? and let go of my arms."

He gave a short, hard laugh, but never stirred.

"I suppose we're about two thousand feet high," says he, and it seemed to me that he had something between his teeth. "If either of us was to fall, he'd be a dead man before he touched the ground."

I would have given the world at that moment to be able to see his face; but what with my own head being downward, and all his weight hanging to my arms, I had no more power than an infant.

"John!" I exclaimed, "what do you mean? Catch hold of the pole, and let me do the same. My head's on fire!"

"Do you see this?" said he, catching my arms a couple of inches higher up, and looking right into my face. "Do you see this?"

It was a large, open clasp-knife, and he was holding it with his teeth. His breath seemed to hiss over the cold blade.

"I bought it this evening—I had it in my belt—I waited till the clouds came round, and there was no soul to see. Presently I shall cut you away from the balloon. I took an oath that you should never have her, and I mean to keep it!"

A dimness came over my eyes, and everything grew red. I felt that in another minute I should be insensible. He thought I was so already, and, letting my arm free, made a spring at the pole overhead.

That spring saved me. Our wrists were bound together, and as he rose he drew me along with him; for I was so faint and giddy that I could make no effort for myself.

I saw him hold by the pole with his left hand; I saw him take the knife in the right; I felt the cool steel pass between his wrist and mine; and then——

And then the horror of the moment gave me back my strength, and I clung to the framework just as the thing gave way.

We were separated now, and I was still secured to the trapeze by one ankle. He had only his arm to trust to—and the knife.

Oh, the deadly strife that followed! it sickens me to think of it. His only hope now lay in the cursed weapon; and so, clinging to the wood-work with one hand, he strove to stab me with the other.

It was life or death now, and I grew desperate. To feel his murderous clutch upon my throat, and, in the silence of that hideous struggle, to hear the report of a champagne cork, followed by a peal of careless laughter, overhead. Oh, it was worse than death, a hundred times over!

I cannot tell how long we clung thus, each with a hand upon the other's throat. It may have been only a few seconds, but it seemed like hours to me. The question was, simply, which should be strangled first.

Presently his gripe relaxed, his lips became dead white, and a shudder ran through every fibre of his body. He had turned giddy!

Then a cry burst from him—a cry like nothing human. He made a false clutch at the trapeze, and reeled over. I caught him just in time by the belt round his waist.

"It's all over with me," he groaned between his set teeth. "It's all—over with me! Take your revenge!" Then his head fell heavily back, and he hung a dead weight on my arm.

I did take my revenge; but it was hard work, and I was already half exhausted. How I contrived to hold him up, to unbind my foot, and to crawl, so laden, up the ropes, is more than I can tell; but my presence of mind never failed me for an instant, and I suppose the excitement gave me a sort of false strength while it lasted. At all events I did it, though I now only remember climbing over the basket-work, and seeing the faces of the gentlemen all turned upon me as I sank to the bottom of the car, scarcely more alive than the burden in my arms.

He is a penitent man now—an Australian settler—and, as I am told, well to do in those parts.

This is my story, and I have no more to tell.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 5, 1858.

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THE CONGRESSIONAL ELECTIONS.

The election of Representatives to the next Congress will soon be commenced. Preliminary movements have already been had in several States, with a view to the selection of candidates. As a general thing, there will be, it is presumed, but two candidates, although to this rule there will doubtless be exceptions. When the candidates possess character and fitness for the place, it is desirable there should be but two, the representative men of the two opposing parties—the Administration and the opposition. True, there are different shades of political opinion in each of these grand divisions, as there would be found to be, if clearly analyzed, between any two individuals of either. As these distinctions cannot be fully carried out, each party should make it a point to select men of integrity, capability, and worth, in whom they can repose implicit confidence. By so doing, they will not only do justice to themselves, but elevate the character of Congress, and discharge their own obligations as citizens. Sound, thinking, reflecting men, of good judgment, honest intentions, and patriotic instincts, are not always the favorites of caucuses or conventions; and it is no unusual thing for mischievous and intriguing individuals to impress the nominating body that such a candidate is less available than one of different character, who, if not selected, will make difficulty, or his friends will be dissatisfied. By yielding to such a policy, great injustice is frequently done, not only to individuals, but to their district, State, and county. There are many Representatives in Congress who are a discredit to their districts, and who would not be there, if the honest and unbiased sentiments of their districts or party prevailed. In this respect, conventions are often harmful, by being made instruments to defeat instead of carry out public opinion. As a general thing, this machinery of party, though deemed necessary, has a tendency to exclude the solid, sterling men from the public service, and introduce in their stead the intriguing, superficial, and unprincipled. Still, we know not that the evil is to be avoided. Men are disinclined to offer themselves as candidates—particularly the class of men most worthy and most revered—for, though perhaps not unwilling to engage in the public service on the call of their fellow citizens, they have a retiring modesty that forbids them from even the appearance of being intrusive. Unless, therefore, they have earnest and determined friends in the party conventions, their reserve and diffidence will in all probability cause them to be shoved aside, by intrigue, effrontery, and combinations, that are alike repulsive and abhorrent to an honorable and sensitive mind.

These local controversies, which are too often used to promote personal aspirations, in the absence of better arguments, interpose themselves, whereby the whole people of the district are deprived of their ablest man, and the country of invaluable services. A man of decided talents, superior qualifications, and of that experience which, if rightly used, is as valuable as either, is thus cut short in his career, to the great detriment of the public interest, on the pretext that another part of the district should be permitted to furnish the member, though there may be no resident among them of equal capacity and merit to him whom they displace.

By these and other means, inferior, and often unworthy, men are placed in the public councils—men of narrow views and limited capacity, or, if possessed of talents and genius, destitute of integrity, are the selected agents, the chosen representatives, of an honorable constituency. A public wrong is thereby committed, of a grave and serious character, not only by lowering the representative standard, but in that demoralization which begets general distrust in the Government itself.

In the approaching elections, it is to be hoped there may be unity of purpose and action on the part of the opposition, who have great principles to nerve and animate them in the contest. They should not, and, it is to be hoped, will not, make these principles subordinate to mere personal aspirations, or secondary to minor and comparatively unimportant considerations. There are issues before the country radically affecting the character of the Government and its institutions. The sectional efforts of the "Southern Rights" party to make Slavery national, to which the Administration has devoted its energies and its influence for years, in defiance of the Constitution and the uniform practice of the Government during the first sixty years of its existence, are not recognised as correct or deserving support by the great majority of the people.

Saving the power and patronage which it wields, there is little to invite support of this Administration; and the President, elected by a minority, has notoriously lost friends and supporters from the day he was inaugurated. Many of his friends have become disaffected, others indifferent, and almost all are disappointed. This is not without cause. It is indisputable that the Administration is a failure; yet, disbursing annually sixty-five millions of dollars, and devoted to a sectional interest, it is a power in itself, and its office-holders a corps of disciplinarians, whose business and mission it is to attend to the elections. That extraordinary exertions will be made to secure a majority in the next Congress, there is no doubt, and there should be a determined resolution on the part of the opposition to defeat them, and secure a House that will be faithful to the Constitution, to Freedom, and to Right. In no one feature does the Administration commend itself to favor. Its Territorial policy is pernicious, and, except in its Slavery subserviency, poorly defined; while its despotic assumption to enforce upon a State a Constitution in opposition to the voice of the people, was so atrocious as to alienate a large portion of its strongest men.

The finances are in a deplorable condition—increasing and unchecked expenditures, a waste of public money in every department, in vicious contracts and needless extravagance for partisan ends, with a decreasing revenue, and no disposition to correct the waste, or ability to replenish the Treasury. Millions have been dissipated recklessly in the Utah expedition, to gratify needy favorites. A remote and expensive Indian war is commencing. These and other indications admonish us of the condition of the country, and the necessity of wise and able men in our councils. Of the President, little is to be expected. Irresolute and infirm of purpose, except in the petty management of little party arrangements, he has no fixed and reliable principles, nor any comprehensive policy for administering the Government. His friends—and by that expression we mean those within the atmosphere of Washington, who supported his election—the leading Administration men, in Congress and out of it, know and feel the weakness of the Executive. The President's devotion to "Southern rights" has been and is so extremely partisan as to have impaired the confidence of many even of that faction in his ability, and in a measure disgust even the sectionalists themselves.

His management of the Kansas question, from his instructions to Walker, which he subsequently abandoned, to the signing of the English bill, that referred back the Constitution to the people, notwithstanding his efforts to impose that instrument upon them without their consent, and all the attending vacillation, prostitution of patronage, executive interference with the legislative department, appointments, and revocations, display not only a want of honest purpose, but an absence of Executive capability. In the mean time, the monetary revulsions, which have caused an immense diminution of the revenue, have led to no corresponding diminution of expenses, or any system of economy and retrenchment.

Without recapitulating the delinquencies and errors of the Administration in detail, and which are patent to the whole country, it is absolutely essential that the next Congress should be reformatory, economical, and composed of the most sagacious and reliable minds that can be called into the public service. Let the aspirations of feeble intellects, the narrow generalities, abstract theories, and vagaries, be postponed, and made subordinate to the great questions in issue. On the next Congress will depend, in all probability, the rightful development of those principles which will shape the policy of parties and the character and action of the Government for years in the future.

In the event of no choice of President by the electoral colleges, it will devolve on the next House of Representatives, voting by States, to designate which of the three highest shall be Chief Magistrate. While such a contingency cannot occur, if the opponents of the Administration are vigilant and united in maintaining the fundamental principles in issue, if they discard trivial matters, and devote their energies to restore the Government to its original simplicity and purpose, it is not so remote as to be overlooked in the preliminary Congressional elections which are about to take place. Not that the partisans of any man, or of any narrow and exclusive views, should be selected, but the reverse—candidates of enlarged, liberal, and practical minds—men who, if elected, will give dignity to their station, are the material that should be brought into requisition in this emergency, because it will devolve upon them to lay the solid basis of a wise, comprehensive, patriotic, and enduring policy, and because the Congressional elections may be decisive of the Presidential election that is to follow.

SOMETHING FOR THE COMPROMISERS.

It is a well-known fact, from one end of the country to the other, that the notorious English bill would not have passed the House of Representatives but for the desertion of a dozen previously Anti-Lecompton Democrats, who turned Compromisers, and affected to see in the bill a way to reconcile themselves once more with the Administration. Messrs. Cox, Lawrence, and others, freely admitted that they did not like the terms of the compromise, but, for the sake of peace, and the Democratic party, they would accept it as it stood. They had doubtless had enough of life outside the Democratic camp, and were glad for a comfortable excuse for returning to cover.

The Hon. Eli Shorter, of Alabama, is one of those Southern members usually denominated Fire-Eaters, and, after some scruples, he too came over and joined hands with Cox, voting for the compromise. Mr. Shorter, upon his return to his district, found some opposition in certain quarters to his vote, and at its head an obstinate editor, who will not be convinced that his Representative voted wisely when he helped pass the English bill. Thereupon, Mr. Shorter issues a very long address to his constituents, in which he defends his conduct, and says some things which our Northern Compromisers should hear.

The address opens with an array of imposing names of Southern politicians who voted with Mr. Shorter for the Compromise. Having established the fact that he was in excellent company, the honorable gentleman proceeds to justify his vote by argument. He says:

"I do not consider that the South has sacrificed any *important principle* in the passage of the conference bill. If the task of drafting it had been intrusted to me, I am free to say that I would have preferred its language in some respects different from what it is. But, under the rules of the House, it could not be amended, and we were forced to accept or reject it as a whole. When, therefore, the entire Black Republican party denounced the bill as an '*outrage and insult to the free North*,' and the Southern delegation, with an unanimity unparalleled in the history of sectional controversies in Congress, *demanded its passage*; and after voting (from extreme caution) for seven days with the Black Republicans, in company with *only four Southern* members, to postpone the final vote, in order to obtain time for investigation and discussion, I deemed it to be my solemn duty to sacrifice whatever prejudices I may have entertained against the bill upon the altar of a 'united South.' I thought then, and still think, that I did right. The bill itself, when properly understood, cannot be construed as making any concession to the North. It embodies no compromise of the Slavery question, so far as the South is concerned."

This extract is mild, in comparison with paragraphs which follow. We subjoin a few specimens:

"By the bill, the North has been compelled to consent that *thirty three thousand people in Kansas* may be admitted into the Union as a State with a *Pro-Slavery Constitution*, while they cannot be admitted as an *Anti-Slavery State* until they number *ninety-three thousand souls*. The truth is, that Kansas was already *practically* lost to the South as a slave State—not by any action of Congress, but because the Free-Soilers had literally taken the Territory. Had Congress admitted Kansas into the Union, and consented to donate to her the *twenty-three million of acres* of the public lands which she *demanded* in her ordinance *as a part of her proposition* to come in, the immediate effect would have been the abolition of Slavery in Kansas, the election of those abolition cutthroats, Lane and Robinson, or others of the same kidney, to the Senate, and another Black Republican to the House." * * *

"The bill, as it finally passed, accepts the Lecompton Constitution as the Constitution of the people of Kansas—makes no objection to it because it recognises Slavery; admits the State into the Union under that Constitution, to take effect by proclamation of the President of the United States whenever he is officially notified that the people of Kansas have decided by an election to accept the usual quantity of public lands allowed to the other States when they were admitted, instead of the *enormous grant of twenty three million of acres*, which Kansas *demanded* and *claimed as a part of her proposition* for admission. Appended to this letter you will find a copy of the ordinance passed by the Convention that framed the Kansas Constitution. By reference to it, you will see that Kansas positively asserts that she has an undoubted right to tax within her limits the lands belonging to the United States, whenever she is admitted into the Union, and proposes to relinquish that right if the conditions which she imposes 'shall be accepted and agreed to by the Congress of the United States.' What are those conditions? A demand that Congress shall give her a certain quantity of our public lands, which the Commissioner of the General Land Office has officially estimated would amount to *twenty-three million of acres!* The Conference bill admits Kansas fully into the Union as a slave State, but first requires her to relinquish her asserted right to tax the public domain, or to lay claim thereto; and offers to give her, in consideration of that relinquishment, the usual quantity of lands that have been given to the new States." * * *

"Suppose Kansas rejects the proposition tendered to her by Congress, in what position is she left by the Conference bill? Under a Territorial Government, where Slavery is recognised and protected by the decision of the Supreme Court of the United States in the celebrated Dred Scott case. By voting to reject the land proposition, the people of Kansas themselves resume their Territorial Government. They are then required by the bill to remain a Pro-Slavery Territory until they have 93,000 people. But it is suggested by some gentlemen that Kansas may apply for admission as a free State, before she has the population fixed in the bill.

"If such an event should occur, I do not believe that Congress would admit her, unless the Black Republicans have a majority in the Senate and House of Representatives. The Democratic party is pledged against it. But, should Kansas be brought into the Union under such circumstances, as an Anti-Slavery State, and in direct opposition to existing laws, *that act* would present to the South a much better *fighting issue* than we could have raised over this Kansas question, had Congress adjourned without effecting a settlement. Alabama had committed herself, through the Legislature, to submit the issue of *Union* or *Secession* to her people, provided Kansas had been rejected by Congress because of Slavery in her Constitution."

The Southern Democratic journals, with two or three exceptions, are satisfied with the passage of the English bill, consoling themselves with the contemplation of the fact, that by its terms the Free States were insulted, and Kansas given to understand that as a Free State she is not welcome to come into the Union. But if, for these reasons, the *Southern* Democracy is appeased, how will it affect the Northern wing of the party? Will Northern Democrats, the constituents of Messrs. English, Cox, and others, rest satisfied under the insult to them and their children? The elections will show, but we venture to predict that they will not.

A MILITARY DESPOTISM.

Each month that rolls by proves more unmistakably that France is enduring all the horrors of a military despotism. Louis Napoleon rules the nation with the sword. In fact, he has no other resource. Having taken the Government into his hands with the sword, he must now govern it by the same instrument.

The result to the people of France is a most horrible one. There is a kind of material prosperity, though that has been greatly exaggerated by Protectionist writers, who point to France as a country with a high protective tariff. Almost all that is worth living for is denied to Frenchmen. They are terribly taxed, their liberties are all gone—they are but slaves. No man dares to speak a word adversely to the Government; no criticism of a political nature is allowed, and whoever ventures to speak of public affairs must have the dungeon or exile immediately in view.

The people of Paris and France find that the military begin to encroach very unpleasantly upon society. This was inevitable under a military despotism. Heretofore, in Paris, society has stood first and highest, and its laws and criticisms have been obeyed by all, the governing as well as the governed. But now the military begin to domineer over society.

M. de Pene, the witty editor of the *Figaro*, sarcastically, or laughingly, alluded to "the inevitable sub-lieutenant" in Parisian society—a character, we suppose, usually representing the vices of the army, and scarcely fit for polished society. M. de Pene is challenged, and fights a duel. He wounds his adversary, when a brutal lieutenant rides over all the laws of the *duello*, and insults him, some say attacks him. The editor is nearly killed, and the army rejoices. The Emperor is afraid to rebuke the brutal officer, for his dependence is upon the army.

The army grows restless. Six hundred thousand soldiers must, sooner or later, *have work to do*. The Emperor really wants them, to enslave France with, to keep down his murmuring people. But it is not wise to admit this, and there are consequently rumors of wars with foreign countries, to gratify the army. It is first rumored that England is to be fought and subjected into a province of France. The versatile Girardin boldly recommends that this be done!

But the Emperor never had a serious thought of such a thing. He knows very well that England could never be conquered in such a war as that; and that only dishonor could come from a conflict with her in such a cause. Then it is rumored that France will make war upon Austria—upon America, to enforce the Belly contract—but all these gossiping reports vanish like fog-clouds before the sun. It turns out that, as the army has been restless, Louis Napoleon has been hoaxing it by holding out warlike projects in the future, and that is all. In the mean time, the French people see that it is really meant to keep them in slavery, and they grow more and more discontented. Where will all this end?

"It is characteristic of a good Democrat, that he is as *perfect in obedience* as he is *absolute in command*. While he is a private in the ranks, he feels it to be his duty to *obey the behests of his party*; when he is promoted to leadership, he exacts *implicit obedience* to the authority which has been vested in him."—*Speech of Mr. Bonny at a Buchanan Convention in Illinois.*

This is probably one of the best definitions of a *party man* extant. It not only describes "a good Democrat," but any slave of party, any man who will stifle his convictions of what is right, for the success of party. He is a *slave* while a mere voter—a *despot* in office.

It is not often that political men speak so frankly as Mr. Bonny did to his flock in Illinois; and if there were more frankness of this kind, there would be a greater chance of opening the eyes of the people, who are not long enslaved, if they but know it.

MISSOURI.

This border State is at the present time the theatre of a great and mighty reform—no less than a voluntary change from slave labor to free. The State is gradually separating itself from its close alliance with slaveholding States, is each year strengthening its ties with the great cities of the free States, and will ere long shake off entirely the incubus which has, from her birth into the Union, cramped her energies and dwarfed her growth. The free-labor sentiment is already in the ascendant. At St. Louis and other centres of civilization, the opponents of slave labor are in decided majorities, and are earnestly at work, scattering the truth broadcast over the entire State.

But there are many circumstances which combine to render the present an auspicious time for the regeneration of Missouri. The German element in the population of the State is a strong one, and it is arrayed against Slavery. The fact that Missouri is peculiarly fitted for the culture of the grape, continually attracts masses of German colonists, who succeed admirably in the business. We clip the subjoined paragraph upon this point from the Missouri correspondence of an exchange:

"With reference to the capacity of the State for this branch of culture, Prof. Swallow, the State Geologist, is reported to have said that 'Missouri contains more good vine land than all France.' The business is now almost entirely in the hands of Germans, a most intelligent and thrifty class of people, who are deriving from it large profits. Some of the vine-land—passed over by the American pioneer for its unfruitfulness—they have bought even at 12½ cents an acre; generally they purchase it of the planters or proprietors for $1 an acre. Even the improved hill-tops, with wood cleared and soil broken, and a good eastern exposure, and sometimes with a planting on it, could be bought for $15 an acre. The German peasant comes in with a small capital of say $300 or $400, builds his log-house and his wine-cellar, buys his cattle and implements, and plants his vineyard—at the same time laying out some of his fields for common crops. For the first three years, he lives on his farm, the sale of his wood, and the like. By the fourth year, his vines make a return, and even if the year be a bad one, are certain to pay the wages of his labor.

"After this, his average yield is at least 300 gallons an acre—worth from $300 to $375. It often reaches 1,000 gallons, or $1,000 to $1,250 in value. One man can work two or three acres easily, and often much more. If he hires labor, wages are from 6*s*. to $1 a day, or from $12 to $15 a month. Provisions are very cheap, so that the returns from this branch of culture must be among the most profitable of any to be obtained from agricultural industry through the whole country. After innumerable experiments with vines from all vine-growing countries, the Missouri cultivators have settled down on certain native grapes, and from these they have produced some new varieties.

"The favorite native grapes are the Catawba, Isabella, and Virginia seedling. Of new and old varieties, there are now some fifty in Missouri. The wines made are much lighter than the Ohio wines—one (red) from the Virginia seedling resembling Burgundy, and another (white) being much like a common Rhine wine. In some portions of the south of Missouri, the culture has fairly changed the face of the country, covering the slaty and barren hill-tops with the beautiful green of vineyards, and giving the air to a new district of old cultivation. One village alone, (Hermann,) with some 12,000 German inhabitants, produced last year 80,000 gallons of wine. There are certain great advantages to Missouri in a German agricultural population, which the people are more and more appreciating."

It seems that the German makes an excellent farmer—in many respects a better one than the American. He loves trees and flowers, and will take more pains than the native to cultivate them around his dwelling. He is thrifty, and is also very industrious. These qualities, when arrayed in contrast with those developed by Slavery, are sure to affect the institution unfavorably. The same writer from whom we have just quoted says:

"The tendency of the vine-growing business, as well as of the Teutonic habit, is to small independent freeholds. For the planters and large proprietors, it becomes vastly more profitable to cut up their estates into small farms, and to sell it to Germans, than to cultivate the whole under their wasteful system.

"Besides, the fact appears—which eventually is to shatter the system of Slavery in all but the Gulf States—that a German laborer, hired at $120 a year, is much more profitable than a negro man, bought for $1,200, where capital is worth from 10 to 18 per cent., and with all the peculiar losses and accidents to which such labor is subject.

"From this slow, sure, inevitable influence of free labor on force labor, Missouri is becoming gradually emancipated. The progress may be slow or rapid, but it is certain as the progress of the seasons. Many difficulties are before the people for the final solution of the question as to the disposal of 90,000 or 100,000 slaves, and the proportion in which all shall bear the indemnities of emancipation. These they must meet and solve themselves, in their own way. But whatever course they take, it is certain that each year—yes, each month—the free Teuton laborer is driving out of the State, or bringing over to his own cause, the American slave-owner. He does it unconsciously. He works often 'better than he knows'—but he is none the less accomplishing the great object."

This is encouraging to the noble band of men at St. Louis—Blair, Brown, and a hundred others—who are showing the people of Missouri, slaveholders as well as non-slaveholders, that it is for their interest, for the honor and glory of the State, to abolish a system of labor which not only degrades its immediate victims, but all kinds of labor and laborers.

Comforted.—The Richmond *South*, which has for so long a time been deeply exercised over the Anti-Slavery condition of the North, is comforted. It says:

"The truth is, that the feeling or conviction of Abolitionism has decayed so rapidly within the last two years, that it now plays but an insignificant part in the politics of the North. Even the Anti-Slavery issue is ignored by the Anti-Slavery party. In Congress, we hear nothing about the wrongs of the negro. The newspapers of the North are engaged in the discussion of other topics. There is a disgust for *Uncle Tom* literature, and Mrs. Stowe is an obsolete scribbler. And more significant than all, it is now perfectly plain that the Presidential election of 1860 will be suspended upon some other than the Slavery issue."

If this be so, we suppose the *South* will no longer publish articles squinting at Disunion! For why should it wish to leave the Union, if the Anti-Slavery spirit is dying out? We wonder where the *South* obtained its news respecting the sentiment of the North at this time—and Mrs. Stowe! Better wait till after the Congressional elections, and see from their results if the Anti-Slavery issue is forgotten.

Complacency.—The *Union* is a complacent journal. It has the highest opinion of itself and its honesty, so much so that if it is attacked, it need not indulge in anger. The *N. Y. Herald* recently launched out severely against the *Union*, charging it with being a mere partisan journal. This was unkind treatment, to come from an Administration print, but the *Union* replies to it very meekly, as follows:

"We transfer a leading article from the New York *Herald* to our columns to-day, on the subject of the President's position and that of the Democratic party. It is perhaps not necessary that we should say that we would regard the success of any measure as exceedingly doubtful, which should promise the destruction of the Democratic organization. We have no faith in the patriotism of any other; and we confess we cannot comprehend how the *Herald* can think otherwise. Our cotemporary attributes our views to the partisan spectacles we are supposed to wear. It may be so, but *we have an impression that the Union is the very least partisan in character of any political journal in the country, not even excepting the Herald. We are guided solely by what we see to be right, and very little, indeed, by mere party influences.*"

It is a happy thing to have a good conscience.

THE ISSUE.

Our enemies, and many calling themselves friends, are constantly endeavoring to belittle or change the issue between us and the so-called Democratic party. One would change the issue to that of Americanism, another to that which for a long time kept the Whig party alive—the doctrine of protection. Others still demand that there be no genuine issue except opposition to the Democratic party, and that the great aim should be to overthrow that party, and secure to ourselves the spoils of office. By adopting this policy, these gentlemen claim that all opponents of the Administration can unite, and win a great victory. We do not believe this; but, if it were true, what good would it accomplish? The new party, put into power without any principles, would be worth no more to the cause of Freedom than the party now in power, and we should have gained just nothing at all. The Chicago *Tribune* has some excellent remarks upon this point, which, though written with especial reference to the campaign in Illinois, are pertinent in every free State. That journal says:

"The fact should never be lost sight of, that the principal issue in the pending canvass in this State is in regard to the extension or restriction of Slavery. To the former, the Democracy—both the Administration and the Douglas factions—are unequivocally pledged; the Republicans are as fully committed in favor of the latter. Stripped of all extraneous matter, this is in fact the sole issue involved. Other questions may come up incidentally in the progress of the discussion, but they are all subordinate to this one, and only tend to show the relative *animus* of the two contending parties. Thus, Mr. Douglas, in his Chicago speech of the 9th inst., declared his opposition to the "ultimate extinction" of Slavery by the action of the States in which it exists, on the ground that this policy would lead to a uniformity of domestic institutions in the several States, out of which would necessarily spring a despotism, based upon the ruins of our republican Government." * * *

"Whether Slavery shall be permitted to pass into and fasten itself upon our Territories, in opposition to the wishes of the people thereof; whether the decision of the Supreme Court, that the Federal Constitution carries the institution with it, and that ninety-nine hundredths of the people of any Territory have no power to exclude it against the wishes of the remaining one-hundredth of the population, shall receive the endorsement of the freemen of Illinois; whether it is not better to return to the early policy of the Government, and preserve our Territories sacred to freedom and free labor by Congressional action, and thus limit Slavery to its present boundaries, leaving all matters connected with the control of the institution within those boundaries to the States, respectively—this is the grand issue upon which the contest hinges. The Republican party is pledged to the policy of letting Slavery alone where it already has an existence, but to hold it in check by interposing every constitutional barrier against its admission into our Territories; the Democracy are pledged to carry it into all our Territories, and they deny to the people thereof all right of opposition to it, until they set about organizing a State Government."

The real issue which the Republican party takes with its opponents is here stated with distinctness, and it would seem as if every intelligent voter could see it at once.

TAKE COURAGE.

"Who here believes that a foot of all those magnificent Territories—Kansas, Nebraska, Oregon, Washington, Utah, and New Mexico—will ever be under the government of Pro-Slavery Constitutions? There was once a hope, once a fair opportunity, of gaining for the South one splendid new Pro-Slavery State—Kansas; but, from the beginning to the end of Executive and Legislative action on that question by Federal authorities, there has been a series of errors, which have lost to us that only opportunity.

"And now the South stands, in the Union, upon the question of territorial extent, presently and prospectively, far different from what she did in 1784. Then, she had more territory than the North, with expectations of great future progress. Now, she sees not a foot of public domain out of which she can reasonably hope for the formation of a new Pro-Slavery State; while in the Union she has but fifteen of the thirty-two States. The North, territorially the weakest in 1784, now has seventeen States in the Union, and enjoys the almost sure prospect of adding to that number in the future every new State that shall apply for admission. The advance of the Anti-Slavery sentiment has been steady. It has covered the whole North. It has made parties and Administrations cower before its fierce demands; and not only holds within its great grasp all the Territories, and all future extension of the Union, but it has crossed the line—the Rubicon has been passed. It is now contending with the South for the possession of Missouri. The question is made to-day in the St. Louis district, in that State, by Mr. Blair!"—*Speech of Hon. Mr. Yancey, of Alabama.*

It is well for the enemies of Slavery to take courage occasionally from the admissions of the enemy. By looking constantly at the great reform we have at heart, we are in danger of growing hopeless. We do not note carefully the advancement made—it seems at times actually as if we were going backward. It is the duty of sincere Anti-Slavery men to guard against such feelings, for they may betray us. At such times, let us gather encouragement from such admissions as the above. Mr. Yancey speaks the truth; and this being the fact, every opponent may rejoice. The work has but just begun, and still the darkest days are past. The conflict may be more stirring, and even dangerous, in the future than in the past, but it cannot be so discouraging.

☞ The Hon. Mr. Farnsworth has been renominated for Congress by his constituents in Illinois.

The New York *Herald* informs us that the Presidential succession engages much more of the attention of the Democratic aspirants at Washington and elsewhere, than the masses of the party can have any notion of. The *Union* (says the *Herald*) continues to pour its hot shot into Douglas, notwithstanding the fact that his defeat must be the defeat of the Illinois Democratic party. But there is a little firm here for the Presidency, consisting of Senator Slidell of Louisiana, and Senator Bright of Indiana, who are determined, at all hazards, to bring Douglas to the block, because he and his friends stand in the way of Messrs. Slidell and Bright, between whom it is agreed that Slidell shall be the Democratic candidate in 1860 for President, and Bright for Vice President. These are the men that are egging on the *Union*. As for the President, he is disposed to let Douglas have his wish in letting him fight out his battle without interruption, one way or the other.

The Secretary of the Navy has given a decision adverse to the application of the Collins line to make Portland their western terminus. The act of Congress provided for contracting to convey the mails between New York and Liverpool, in accordance with the proposals of E. K. Collins & Co. As those proposals were to carry the mails by steamships from New York to Liverpool, the application for a change could not, therefore, be legally sustained.

The report that Prof. Morse had received an installment of the $80,000 voted him by some of the European Governments, was premature. He has not yet touched any of the money.

The Review.

A New Latin-English School Lexicon, on the Basis of the Latin-German Lexicon of Dr. C. F. Ingerslev. By G. R. Crooks, D. D., late Adjunct Professor of Ancient Languages in Dickinson College, and A. J. Schem, A. M., Professor of Hebrew and Modern Languages in Dickinson College. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott & Co. 1858. For sale by Franck Taylor, Washington, D. C.

Lexicography has made great advances within the last quarter of a century. This is true in reference to all languages; nor in any more so than the Greek and Latin. New lexical principles have been proposed and adopted, and more discrimination exercised in separating and classifying the shades of meaning. Etymological investigations, too, have been carried out more accurately; so that the student of every grade is furnished with facilities for acquiring or prosecuting a knowledge of classical authors, such as were never before enjoyed. The labors of Scheller, Freund, Kärcher, Koch, Klotz, Georges, Mahlmann, Ingerslev, and others, have resulted in most valuable Latin and German Lexicons; while in the Latin-English, we have had Leverett, Andrews, (based on Freund,) and W. Smith, in which these products of the indefatigable application and varied learning of continental scholars have been brought within the reach of the educated and educating classes in this country. The volume before us owes its existence to this spirit of advance and results of investigation. It is based on the Latin-German Lexicon of Dr. Ingerslev, whose work has received high praise among the German critics. The original intention, by its authors, of translating that Lexicon, was, however, changed into a purpose of preparing an independent one on such a basis, using also for consultation the other larger works. It is strictly a School Lexicon. The aim is not to furnish a Reference Latin Dictionary for the matured scholar, but a practical one, to be used in the study of the classics in schools, and the authors regard this object as to be attained "by excluding matter not needed by those who are still in the school, and by including and devoting especial attention to other matter of more importance to them." On this plan they omit words exclusively belonging to writers after what is called the silver age of Latin literature, the church fathers, and middle ages, confine themselves to classic prose-writers and poets, cut off many mere examples and terms required in advanced study, abbreviate, refer to etymologists; and so condense much matter in the compass of nearly one thousand pages octavo.

The book is finely printed, the leading significations are marked "by a heavy broad-faced type," and the Italic is used "for rarer meanings," for definitions less direct, and for examples.

The execution of the plan is well carried out, and a valuable School Lexicon, embracing the best features of perhaps the best *School Lexicon* in Germany, and incorporating still further improvements, is secured. We have looked over it, to find some example we could quote, giving nearly all the varieties of characteristics; but to do this we should have to take one of the longer articles, for which there is no room. The following shorter one, however, may help to give some idea of the method adopted; and we may just observe that such a *School* Lexicon would have been of great use to Judge Daniel, in his opinion on the Dred Scott case, as it would have saved him from such a humiliating exposure of his blunders in translation from Latin as he received from President Woolsey, of Yale College.

"LIBERTINUS. a, um. *adj.* [libertus.] Belonging to the condition of a freedman. (opp. to ingenuus, *belonging to the* condition of a *freeborn person*, and also to servus:) ordo, (genus) l. *the condition, rank of freedmen*: homo, l., *a freedman;* mulier l., *a freedwoman.* Most freq., *subst.* Libertinus, i, m, and Libertina, æ; *f.* a freedman, freedwoman, (with reference to his master, the freedman was called "libertus;" but "libertus" with reference to his rank in the State. cf. "libertus.")

The Eclectic Magazine for August, 1858.

This number closes the third volume, and contains two articles from the *North British Review*, and one from the *Westminster Review*, "On Lieut. Maury's Geography of the Sea;" The Works of Dugald Stewart; and the Escape of Charles II. Besides, there is a paper on Kingsley's Poems, from Frazer; an article on Birds and Insects, from the *New Monthly;* several stories or shorter articles, from different magazines; a very beautiful mezzotint engraving of Sartain's, illustrating the story of Jesse Brown and Colin Grey, from Crabbe's Poems—forming a varied and pleasing list of attractions for summer reading.

FROM IOWA.

Le Claire, Iowa, *July* 20, 1858.

To the Editor of the National Era:

Three weeks of heat, with the thermometer ranging from 8[illegible] degrees at sunrise to 92 and 96 at 2 P. M., in the shade, and an occasional thunder storm, has been succeeded by a week of cloud and gloom, with alternations of heat and coolness, and slight showers of rain.

Gloom in the sky is reflected by gloom on the faces of very many of our citizens. Old "Hard Times" seems quite unwilling to leave us, notwithstanding he has made so [illegible]ng a day. Last winter, it was confidently asserted by those who were supposed to be in the old gentleman's confidence, that he would leave on the approach of balmy spring; and, indeed, he did pack up some of his baggage, and make some preparations for departure, but now he appears to be as firmly located as ever. The hope, however, is generally entertained, that he will in a few months be so plastered over with Iowa bank bills, that he will be unable to move a limb or draw a breath. A few, however, believe that the plaster to be applied will but prepare him for more vigorous action hereafter.

Be that as it may, a large majority of the votes cast on the Bank question, on the 28th ultimo, were in favor of Banks. In fact, the vote was well nigh unanimous. The "State Bank" bill received the largest vote in its favor, though the total vote of the State has not yet been declared. A glance at some of the returns shows how entirely the old questions, which once so deeply engaged Whig and Democrat, are ignored. Thus, Democratic Dubuque, which ordinarily gives 1,000 majority for "Democratic principles," comes up with 2,300 for Banks, and only 72 against. Muscatine, long Democratic, or, when Republican, so by very small majorities, gave 2,000 for Banks, and 57 against.

These votes, however, show only that the people are eager to seize anything that promises relief from the present difficulties, not that they have given an intelligent expression of their views as to the relative merits of a credit or a hard-money currency.

Eastern exchange is selling nominally at 2 and 2½ per cent.; but as the balances are all against the West, it is scarce, and is furnished at the above rates by the Banks to their customers only. Outsiders take their chances, at from 5 to 8 and 10 per cent.

The partial increase of business in early spring has been succeeded by months of dullness. This has pressed severely on all those interested in the construction of buildings—a class always disproportionably large in Western cities and villages. Thus, from every point come reports of mechanics out of work, and laborers idle. The contrast between the activity of last season and the dullness of this, in this respect, is almost past belief.

In real estate, little is being done. No one wishes to sell, unless compelled to do so. A few sales at auction of choice localities have

alized last year's prices. Some sales have been effected at a small reduction; and others, where the seller was "hard-up," and a large proportion of the money had to be paid down, heavy reductions on last year's prices.

Now that the facts in regard to this harvest are known, it is evident that many farmers who have speculated largely in land, and borrowed heavily, in hopes of getting clear by the proceeds from their crops, will have to sell out, and some will be ruined.

The small quantity of barley grown in this section has been cut, and is generally good. Now, the reapers are busy in the wheat fields, in almost all of which the blight has fallen heavily. From all directions, in this State and in Illinois, comes the report that the "spot" has banished all hopes of an average crop. In many cases it will not be cut at all, and the most reliable accounts place the estimate for the entire crop at half the usual average. It must, however, be borne in mind, that the straw is unusually thick on the ground, and the good heads may be fully, so that the ultimate yield may be better than is expected.

The "rust," too, has taken some fields very badly.

Corn, except on low wet lands, looks finely, and promises a large yield. E. R.

WASHINGTON ITEMS.

The journal of Capt. J. H. Simpson, of the Topographical Engineers, has been received by the War Department, giving an account of his observations along the route to Utah, but it is too stale and uninteresting for publication. The *Union* may possibly publish it.

Dispatches received to-day by the State Department, from the Sandwich Islands, report J. F. Borden, United States Commissioner, as having arrived and entered upon the discharge of his official duties.

Private advices to Governor Stevens report a slight disappointment on the part of the miners at Fraser river. That river continued very high, and retarded the operations of the new immigrants.

The Government is in receipt of dispatches, stating that the Saranac had left Panama for San Juan del Sur and other points along the Pacific coast. The object of this cruise of the Saranac is, as I stated some time ago, to redress the grievances of our citizens, and make a general settlement with a number of towns on the coast, where the rights of Americans have been totally disregarded. This vessel was built at Portsmouth, N. H., in 1848—is a side-wheel steamer of the second class, and carries six heavy guns.

When I first announced that the Fulton had been ordered home for the Paraguay service, my dispatch was pretty generally contradicted by those who are now, at this late day, stating the same fact as an item of *news*. The Fulton is a side-wheel steamer of third class, and carries five guns. She was built at New York, in 1837. It would be well for some correspondents not to make it a rule to contradict every fact of which they themselves are unfortunately ignorant.

ABOLITIONISTS RULED OUT OF THE CHEROKEE NATION BY A U. S. INDIAN AGENT.

To the Editor of the National Era:

The enclosed slip I cut from a New Orleans paper, and send to you, for the purpose of giving it a wide circulation. It may not be amiss to inquire who this Col. Butler is, who assumes [illegible] speech. Is this in accordance with instructions from the heads of Government?

It think it well for those who have any regard for the rights of freemen to be fully advised as to what they may expect in all the Territories where the slaveholding interest has the control. I presume there would not be the slightest objection to slaveholders settling in the Territory occupied by those Indians. I am informed by one who has resided there for some time, that a Constitution similar to that of Mississippi has already been adopted by the white residents, and all necessary measures taken to make it a slave State at the earliest period possible.

These facts and circumstances, one would think, were sufficient to satisfy every voter in the free States of the necessity of placing the Government in the hands of such persons as would have some principle and motive above a stupid, blind servility to the interests of slaveholders. I think the attention of the people should be called to the declaration of this Col. Butler, who so pompously boasts that Abolitionists will be summarily dealt with in the Nation. These things are a most flagrant and outrageous insult to the feelings and common sense of every person of correct notions of human rights. Slaveholders talk about encroachments upon their rights, and being insulted, &c. When and where can they point to anything that will compare with this for insolence and insult?

Respectfully, yours, ———— ————.

"*Abolitionists in the Cherokee Nation.*—Col. Butler, the U. S. Indian Agent, has addressed the following communication, dated "Tahlequah, C. N., June 30," to the Fort Smith *Herald*:

"'In your paper of the 26th inst., you notice the arrival of one or two Abolitonists in your city, who are on their way to the Cherokee Nation for the purpose of preaching Abolitionism. Will you give me the names of these individuals, and they will be summarily dealt with—as they shall not address the public upon such matters in this Nation, nor remain in it.

"'Allow me, through the columns of your paper, to notify all persons who are in this Nation, without authority, or purpose to come into it, that they will be treated as intruders, and removed, unless they report to the Superintendent of Indian Affairs or Cherokee Agent, and state their business. An Abolitionist will not be suffered to remain here, under any circumstances.'"

FOREIGN SUMMARY.

The steamer *Europa* of the Cunard line, from Liverpool, on the 17th instant, for Boston, was intercepted July 31st off Cape Race, by the news yacht of the Associated Press. Her news is three days later than was brought by the *Northern Light*. The telegraphic fleet was expected to weigh anchor for the starting point in mid-ocean on the day the *Europa* sailed. The general news is without importance, being principally confirmatory of that previously received. A decline is reported in cotton, breadstuffs, and provisions, and commercial affairs generally were exceedingly dull.

The steamship Hammonia brings us one day's later intelligence from Europe. Further troubles between the Turks and Christians in Bosnia are reported. A Russian force had been surprised by the Caucasians, and obliged to retreat in great disorder. By a Royal decree of the 11th, the Piedmontese Chambers were prorogued. The Madrid journals of the 12th announce the nomination of forty-one new Senators. They say also that it has been decided that M. Isturitz should be appointed Ambassador at London, M. Mon at Paris, M. Rios Rosas at Rome, and the Duke de Ossuna at St. Petersburg. The note addressed to the English Cabinet on the subject of Lord Malmesbury's speech is represented to be conceived in strong but polite terms. On the afternoon of the 17th, Consols stood at 95⅜ to 95½.

The steamer Vanderbilt arrived at New York, from Liverpool, on the 1st, with advices to the 21st ult.

She reports that the weather throughout the passage has been quite favorable for laying the Atlantic cable.

The United States frigate Niagara was seen off Cape Clear on the 18th, and the English frigate Agamemnon off Kingsale on the same day.

Interesting debates had taken place in Parliament on the Jiddah massacre. Lord Stratford de Redcliffe, the late Ambassador to the Porte, advocates the adoption of energetic measures, and the demanding of full reparation.

There was no intention of occupying Mecca. Interesting debates on the India bill, the Jew bill, the Hudson Bay Company, and the New Caledonia bill, had taken place.

The first interview between the sovereigns of England and France, at Cherbourg, was to take place on August 5th.

The Turkish Government had sent a general officer to Jiddah, intrusted with the powers of life and death.

France, in concert with England, is taking measures against Jiddah.

There are promising reports of the wheat crop in England.

The Dutch trading company is raising a loan of 5,000,000 francs, to increase the company's transactions in the cotton market.

MARKETS.

Liverpool, July 21.—Cotton—Sales three days past 19,000 bales, including 1,400 bales for export and 1,400 bales taken on speculation. Market generally unchanged, closing quiet, but steady.

Manchester advices are favorable—sales slow, but prices unaltered.

Breadstuffs are dull, but steady. The weather has been favorable for the crops. Flour dull, and nominally unchanged—Western Canal 21*s.* @ 21*s.* 6*d.*; Philadelphia and Baltimore 22*s* @ 22*s.* 6*d.*; Ohio 22*s* @ 24*s.* Wheat is quiet, but steady—buyers demand a reduction—Southern red 6*s.* 9*d.* @ 7*s.* 3*d.* Corn is quiet—yellow 34*s* @ 34*s.* 6*d.*; white 33*s.* to 33*s.* 6*d.*

Provisions.—The market is dull. Lard is firm, and all qualities slightly advanced—Sales 56*s.* to 57*s.* 6*d.*

Produce.—Rosin is dull at 4*s.* to 4*s.* 3*d.* Sugar is quiet. Turpentine spirits dull at 42*s.*

Latest.—London, Wednesday noon.—The market for breadstuffs is a shade weaker. Consols 95½.

India.

From the Government and India House dispatches, we glean the following additions to our telegraphic accounts:

"The Maharajah of Gwalior is now a fugitive at Agra. The main body of the Calpee fugitives fled first to Indoorkee, where they were joined by about 1,500 men. They decided to march on Gwalior, which they did rapidly, so as to allow Scindia but little time for preparation. They reached Gwalior on the 1st of June. Their numbers are believed to have been about 5,000 infantry and 800 cavalry, with a few small guns. Scindia went out to the cantonments to oppose them, with 1,000 cavalry, 2,000 infantry, and 30 guns.

"No sooner, however, had the action commenced, than one of Scindia's cavalry regiments went over *en masse* to the enemy; a large proportion of the rest of his army followed the example, and the remainder fled precipitately, with the exception of the Maharajah's body guard, who fought most gallantly, and brought off Scindia safely from the field, losing, however, 200 of their own number. The Maharajah, with his Dewan, Dinker Row, and some thirty of his sirdar, fled, *via* Dholpore, to Agra, which he reached *on* the 2d of June. The family of the Maharajah escaped to Nurwur, but his palace is plundered, and the fort is said to be in the hands of the rebels. The bulk of the Calpee force has marched on Gwalior.

"Sir Hugh Rose will direct operations. Brigadier Smith's brigade will co-operate, and a demonstration was to be made from Agra in the direction of Dholpore.

"The rebels are said to have proclaimed the Nana at Peishwa, and Tantia Topee as chief under him.

"The rebels in Oude are pursuing the policy of harassing and plundering those who show themselves friendly to our cause; and this doubtless prevents many from coming forward openly and siding with us, who are inclined to do so.

"Ghazepoore is again threatened by Ummer Sing's party, who has been driven out of the Jugdespoore jungle by Sir E. Lugard. They have burned several of the Rway bungalows in the district. They are collecting boats for the purpose of crossing the Ganges and attacking Ghazepoore.

"On the 2d of June, some mutineers crossed the Ravee, and, being joined by the Poorheea laborers on the canal, plundered the Bazaar at Madhopore, burnt a European clerk, killed his wife and child, and wounded two other children. They were beaten off, and, while recrossing the river, a few were killed, and a number drowned. Two hundred and fifty of these men have since been arrested by the Maharajah of Cashmere.

"Her Highness Balezabaea, with the family of Scindia, arrived in safety at Oojein, from Gwalior. About 500 of her troops have since mutinied at Oojein, and seized the magazine and ten guns.

"The chief of Tourgood was, on conviction of rebellion and the murder of Mr. Manson, executed at Belgaum on the 12th of June."

The London *Athenæum* contains a copy of a communication from the Admiralty to the senior naval officer on the coast of Brazil, relative to the total eclipse of the sun which will be visible in South America on the 7th of September next. It says that, as the accurate observation of such eclipses may prove of high scientific interest, their Lordships are desirous that a passage in one of H. M.'s ships from Rio de Janeiro to St. Paul's may be afforded to any English astronomer who may go to Brazil for the purpose of making such observations, provided the exigencies of the service will admit of a steam vessel being employed for the purpose. The astronomer may arrive at Rio de Janeiro in August next, and the steamer should convey him with his instruments to St. Paul's or St. Catharine's, or to such port on that part of the coast as may be most convenient; he should be afforded every assistance and facility for landing and erecting his instruments; and, after his observations are completed, the vessel should take him back to Rio de Janeiro.

Official advices from China confirm the previously-received intelligence that the Emperor of China has appointed an official of a satisfactory rank to confer with the peace commissioners there. This is regarded at Hong Kong as an important step toward an amicable arrangement of the difficulties between the contending parties.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

Albany, Linn Co., Oregon, June 11.—Our election for State officers has just passed. The Sham Democracy carried the Territory. The National Democrats, that split off from the Hards, endorsed Buchanan and Lecompton and Dred Scott opinion in the canvass. Our Republican nominees, mostly, withdrew their names just before election, thinking they stood no show, and hoped by fusion to get a United States Senator. The Republicans, or many at least, would not vote the National ticket; and there is no doubt but the Sham or Hard Democracy will have a majority on the joint ballot, and it is now expected that Gen. Lane and Delazon Smith of this county will be the Senators. L. F. Grover, a nigger-worshiper, will go to Congress.

Had the Republican candidates stumped the Territory, and not withdrawn their names, there is no doubt we should have polled 500 to 1,000 more than the National ticket, and in 1860 there would have been a fair show to carry Oregon Republican. But their withdrawing has had a bad effect on the minds of many true Republicans in Oregon.—*Cor. N. Y. Tribune.*

St. Louis, July 26.—By the arrival of the steamer D. A. January, at Booneville, we have Leavenworth dates of the 23d inst. Mr. Livingston, an old trader on the plains, arrived there last night, from Salt Lake City, with dates of June 30. The army had marched from the Capital for Cedar Valley, forty miles below.

Brigham Young and the heads of the Mormon church had returned to the city, and the people were following them *en masse*. All was quiet in the Valley. Some of the returned teamsters are circulating a report of rich gold deposits in the vicinity of Saint Vrain's Fort. These statements do not receive full credit, in the absence of information from authentic sources.

Dispatches from Saint Joseph's, dated the 22d, per the steamer D. A. January, state that advices from Salt Lake City to July 3d have been received. The Mormons had all returned to the city and their homes in the different parts of the Territory.

Gen. Johnston had passed through the city with his horses, and encamped thirty miles on the other side of it. No troops were in the city.

The Government officers had been duly installed in their various offices, and were prepared for the proper discharge of their duties.

Brigham Young was anxious to be tried on the charge of treason, but insisted that the jury should consist of Mormons only.

The Rev. Dr. Robie, editor of the Oregon *Advocate*, was lately dubbed D. D., but refuses to wear the title, declaring that he "does not hold himself obligated to the source or institution whence he received it, and had always been in hopes that so few knew anything about it that it would not often be used."

John G. Davis, of Indiana, who is making a strong and independent run for re-election to Congress, has been formally read out of the Democratic party. He deserved it, but will lose nothing by it.

The Senate of Illinois consists of twenty-five members, elected biennially for four years; and of the twelve whose terms expire this year, six are Republicans, five are Democrats, and one is an American. It will be necessary for the Republicans to choose nine Senators this fall, in order to control the upper branch of the Legislature.

Valentine B. Horton, Republican, peremptorily declines a re-election to Congress from Ohio, this fall.

L. G. Van Slyke, of Columbus, has been elected warden of the Ohio penitentiary, having voted for himself as a member of the board of directors.

Samuel B. Ruggles accepts the appointment of canal commissioner of New York, and thus responds to the invitation to unite with the Republican party.

We learn that the large number of portraits of Mr. English—author of "English's bill," in Congress—which were recently sent to the West for sale, have become a drug in the market. Rather significant!

The editor of the Dubuque *Express and Herald* has received specimens of so-called gold from Audubon county, which turns out to be simply sulphate of copper—glittering something like gold, but utterly worthless. The man on whose farm they were found is willing to sell for $1,000 an acre. We believe that some small quantities of gold have been found in Iowa; but it is very likely that most of the alleged discoveries in that State are of a piece with those of Audubon county.

A great Sunday-school celebration was held at Kalamazoo, Michigan, on Saturday, July 10. Ten thousand persons, old and young together, were present.

We learn that the report of Dr. Walker's resignation of the Presidency of Harvard College is wholly without foundation. He has not resigned, "to take effect at commencement," nor has he any thought of retiring from his present position.

The St. Louis *Democrat*, by comparing the free and slave population of several counties, shows the tendency of free emigration to drive Slavery out of Missouri. There are more than thirty counties in which Slavery is fast disappearing, and it is not a little remarkable that many of them are in the middle and southern sections—the border-ruffian portions of the State.

Mike Murray, a New York Alderman, died on Monday last. He was an Irishman, who kept a rum shop, through which he made his entrance into the Democratic party, and finally became an Alderman.

A strawberry was picked in the garden of an amateur, near Buffalo, which measured eight and five-eighths inches in circumference. The weight of the berry was one ounce, two pennyweights, and twelve grains. The specimen was of the British Queen variety.

We find in the Baltimore papers the proceedings of a meeting of slaveholders on the eastern shore of Maryland, held in Chestertown, Kent county, on Saturday last. The meeting was called to "take into consideration the proper measures to be adopted to promote the better security of slave property," and was numerously attended by leading citizens. The direct cause for calling the meeting seems to have been the belief that there are living in the neighborhood some few "mischievous and evil-disposed persons, who have secretly and clandestinely operated to induce slaves to abscond, and, in some instances, to aid them in escaping;" and it was resolved unanimously not to traffic or deal with any man who will not "openly and plainly, without limitation or modification, express his detestation of everything like tampering with slaves, to assist or induce them to abscond."

General William Walker has written a letter to to the Mobile *Register*, animadverting upon the course pursued by the Government towards him. He declares that the Federal officers, not content with taking from him his rights and the property he held in Nicaragua, have attempted to deprive him of his honor also. He adds, that he regards himself as "an humble instrument in the hands of a Higher Power," and says he scorns the counsel of those who advise submission to wrong. Accounts from Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and Georgia, state that the feeling in those States in favor of Walker is increasing. A correspondent of the Louisville *Journal*, writing from Dalton, Ga., says that Nicaragua bonds have been taken up by Southern planters to the amount of $775,000.

The citizens of Berlin Heights, Ohio, have resolved to purchase the property now held by the Free-Lovers in that town, with the purpose of effecting the entire expulsion of that disgraceful rabble from the place.

The Rev. Eleazer Williams, the Bourbon Prince, is now dangerously sick at Hogansburg, Franklin county, New York.

We have highly important advices from Utah, which would appear to leave little doubt as to the settlement, at least for the present, of the difficulties with the Mormons. Dispatches received in St. Louis, and telegraphed to us, state that news from Salt Lake City to the 3d instant has been received. Brigham Young and the heads of the Mormon church had returned to the city, and had been followed by the people, who were returning to their homes in all parts of the Territory. No troops were in the city, General Johnston having passed through and encamped with the army in Cedar Valley, thirty miles beyond. The Government officers had been duly installed, and everything was quiet in the Valley. It was stated that Brigham Young was anxious to be tried on the charge of treason, though he insisted that the jury should consist of Mormons only—which, of course, would insure his acquittal.

By reference to a letter from Gen. Isacks, it will be seen that Gen. Calhoun has issued certificates to all those elected under the Lecompton Constitution.

It will be seen that the Free-State members from this county receive their certificates. This will give that party a majority in both branches of the Legislature. In the balance of the counties, the certificates are issued according to the heretofore-published letter of Calhoun. This gives the control into the hands of the Free-State men, in the event we become a State. Now, the question is divested of many of its old prejudices. Let all men come up to the polls and settle the question by accepting the ordinance. There is no use of further strife and agitation. Accept the ordinance, and the peace, quiet, and prosperity of Kansas is certain.—*Kansas Herald.*

The Washington *Union* publishes a communication from Asbury Dickins, Secretary of the Senate, contradicting an imputation upon the Vice President, Breckinridge. Mr. Dickins says:

"Agreeably to a plan reported by the Committee on the judiciary, and agreed to by the Senate, the papers which indicated the classes to which the Senators from Minnesota were to be assigned, were prepared and put into the ballot-box by the Secretary, and the drawing took place at his table, on which the box had been placed, and where the Senators from Minnesota came for the purpose of drawing. The Vice President was in his usual seat, which is above, and some feet removed from the Secretary's table; so that any interference with the drawings on the part of the Vice President would have been impossible. The preparation of the papers to be drawn, the drawing them out, and, in fact, the whole proceedings, were open and public, in presence of the Senate and of numerous spectators. The Vice President was only a looker-on, his duty not requiring anything to be done by him. The proceeding was, moreover, in all respects similar to what has been done on all similar occasions from the beginning of the Government."

The Administration has at last fully determined upon the course to be pursued towards Paraguay. A fleet of six or seven vessels is to be sent, including the *Harriet Lane* and the *Fulton*—the former to be the flag-ship. Commander Page will have charge of the expedition, and is now, or will be soon, in the North, to charter such additional steamers as may be adapted to the service. It is not considered probable that there will be occasion to fire a gun, but, in view of the preparations recently made by Paraguay for defence, it is determined that our force shall be sufficient for all emergencies. The Commissioner to accompany the expedition has not yet been selected.

The Charleston *Mercury* publishes a report of the proceedings of a meeting at Beech Island, on the occasion of a public dinner to Senator Hammond. That gentleman's speech was of course the great feature. In speaking of the relations of the North and South, he takes the following positions:

1. That if we were well out of the Union, with our Constitution and political institutions established and acknowledged, the South would be more prosperous than she is now, or seems likely to be, in the Union.

2. That we are not likely to dissolve the Union until some very substantial issue is made, viz: the North ruling us by a confirmed sectional majority, or a renewal of the tariff, banks, &c., or direct tampering with our slaves, &c.

3. That we have already achieved great victories over the North, and that, if we would unite and stand firmly, watchfully, with arms in order, on the Constitution, truth, justice, and our rights, with *the alternative* of a dissolution, there is reason to feel confident that we can not only sustain ourselves in the Union, but control the country, and, through it, the world.

4. That the South should review minutely and analytically the ground of the prevalent opinion that we want expansion of slave territory, and should also ascertain whether the thing be possible for the South, with our limited supply of slaves, which the Senator intimates he is adverse to increasing by reopening the slave trade, and which he regards as wholly impracticable.

The President has appointed Mr. Nugent, editor of the *San Francisco Herald*, an agent of the Government to proceed to Fraser river, for the purpose of preventing, by influence and advice, any difficulties which might be likely to arise between American miners and the British authorities. The step would seem judicious and timely. The proverbial superiority of prevention is in this case unusually decided.

It is stated that the British Minister at Washington, Lord Napier, has tendered to the State Department the most satisfactory assurances of a friendly policy toward our countrymen at Fraser river. Any illiberality which the Hudson Bay Company might be willing to exercise will be overruled by the Home Government. The intentions of the English Ministry are clearly indicated in the very sensible instructions of Sir E. Bulwer Lytton to Governor Douglas.

It is pleasant to reflect that we have fairly earned the courtesy which Britain extends to our miners by our own liberality in California. There are tens of thousands of our citizens at this moment in New Caledonia, and it is earnestly to be hoped that peace and good will may characterize their intercourse with British subjects and with the British authorities. The movement is an important one, and the step taken by the President is abundantly justified.

M. Emile de Girardin, who is about to travel for some time, gave a grand farewell dinner to his friends a few days since. Prince Napoleon was present, and received numerous congratulations on his appointment to the Ministry of Algiers and the Colonies. It is reported that he agreed with M. de Girardin and the majority of his guests, that the limits within which existing legislation confines the expression of public opinion ought to be extended.

Mr. George Thompson, after an absence in India of two years and a half, has arrived in London, having returned to England *via* the Cape. Mr. Thompson's health was in so critical a state during the voyage, that little hope of his recovery was entertained; but, although still suffering from extreme debility, there is every probability of his early recovery.

The Raleigh *Register* gives an interesting account of the burial of the late Rev. Elisha Mitchell, D. D., Professor of Chemistry, Mineralogy, and Geology, in the University of North Carolina. He was interred on the summit of "Mount Mitchell," North Carolina, which was named from him.

The original portrait of Hugh S. Legare, in possession of Mrs. Bullen, a sister of Mr. Legare, now residing in Iowa, is to be forwarded to Washington. A copy of it will be made by the artist, Stanley, and be added to the series of portraits of the Attorney Generals of the United States, designed to decorate the Attorney General's Department.

Four Roman Catholic priests in this city make public announcement, that, by the permission of Archbishop Hughes, they have organized a new enterprise under the title of "The Missionaries Priests of St. Paul the Apostle." They propose to commence their course of missions in the latter part of September.—*N. Y. Paper.*

Mr. A. Dudley Mann has written a letter to the Richmond *South*, setting forth his reasons for advocating the Atlantic Steam Ferry project, which he says he does because the plan would divert the traffic and mails between Europe, Australia, China, Japan, the Pacific States, the West Indies, Mexico, and Central America, from their present routes across this Continent.

The Shakespeare autograph is enshrined in the British Museum. It lies on velvet, in a sloping mahogany case, with a plate-glass before it, and curtains of blue silk to protect it from too strong a light. "What a change," says the *Illustrated London News*, "from lying in a dirty chest, in a three-pair-back attic, off Chancery lane!"

The New York Quarantine is not the only place which has been visited by yellow fever vessels from the West Indies, as will be seen by the following item from the *Boston Journal* of yesterday: "The barque Sebois arrived at quarantine yesterday, from Cienfuegos, via Key West, having cases of yellow fever on board. On the 1st instant, Henry Mason, of Charlestown, the second mate, died at sea of yellow fever, and on the 6th instant, on account of the sickness of Capt. McNeil, the Sebois put into Key West, where the captain died on the same day. The Sebois then proceeded on her voyage to this port. On the 16th, another seaman, named Thomas McFarland, died of the disease, and on the 18th still another, George Norman.

The New Bedford *Mercury* states that in the shed of Messrs. Hastings & Co., of that city, are stored 22,000 barrels of sperm and whale oil, being the largest quantity ever stored in any one shed in New Bedford. Is it reasonably safe to store so much oil in one shed, and are insurance offices justified in taking risks upon it? The oil must be worth something like half a million dollars. Three sperm whalers arrived at New Bedford in the twenty-four hours ending Friday morning, bringing 4,300 barrels sperm oil. During the last week, eight whalers arrived at that port, three of which will lose to their owners about $70,000.

They have organized a Southern League at Montgomery, Ala., the ultimate effect of which, it is easy to foresee, will be the dissolution of the Union, or the universal recognition of negroes as its paramount interest. The means, which point like so many unvarying magnets to this pole, are the rejection of all future compromises, the election of none but State-rights, fire-eating, secessionist, Pro-slave-trade Democrats to Federal office, and the appropriation of the entire Federal patronage as a means of more effectually snubbing the Union-savers and Abolitionists. To all these points, salient and acute as they are, Col. Yancey, the new evangelist of disunion, spoke at length and thrillingly. He omitted, however, to mention how the great mass of Union Democrats and Americans at the South, who still cling to the Union, wrecked as it is, but still afloat, are to be disposed of; or by what mesmerism the populous North is to be rendered passive. As secondary topics, perhaps, they will be treated in his next speech. Let us wait, with his band of covenanters, until the revelation be vouchsafed.

We learn that Lord Richard Grosvenor, Sir Henry Cavendish, and the Hon. Mr. Ashley, left St. Anthony, Minnesota, on Tuesday, the 10th inst., on a buffalo hunt in the wilds of Dacotah. They went with the same great party which Mohammed Pasha, the Turkish Admiral, was to have accompanied. They will be absent in the wilderness some six weeks.

William Gilmore Simms, the novelist and poet, is named for U. S. Senator from South Carolina.

William Allen, Esq., of Greenville, Darke county, has been nominated by the Democracy of the fourth district of Ohio, for Congress. The present incumbent is Mathias H. Nichols, a Republican.

The Government is perfectly satisfied that the steps taken by Great Britain will prevent any collision or misunderstanding between the miners and the Government authorities at the newly-discovered gold-diggings in "New Caledonia."

It is an interesting fact, never yet made public, that the Hudson Bay Company have, for some time, been anxious to sell to the United States all their rights and interests under the treaty of 1845. Under the provisions of this treaty, this Company own and hold a number of forts, posts, and trading-houses, situated in the Territory of the United States; also, large stocks of horses, sheep, and cattle. Lord Napier, the British Minister, was authorized, by the Company, to sell to the United States for the sum of six hundred thousand dollars. Several meetings were held at the State Department on the subject, but without a sale being effected. According to the testimony of General Lane and Governor Stevens, the sum named was very low for the property proposed to be transferred. The stock alone, they stated, would bring at auction one-half the price named. The Secretary of State was favorable to the purchase, but he much doubted the disposition of Congress to make the necessary appropriation. As things now stand, in order to avoid a complication of our matters with the Hudson Bay Company, the Secretary of State may close the contract, *provided* the offer is still open, and *provided*, further, Congress will make the appropriation to meet the payment. It is essential to the peace and good understanding of the two Governments, that this interest of the Hudson Bay Company on our side of the line be extinguished.

It is now definitely settled that a United States fleet of six or seven vessels shall be sent to Paraguay, to accompany the Commissioners to be appointed for the purpose of arranging the existing difficulties between that Government and this. These are to include the Harriet Lane and Fulton; and Commander Page, who is to have charge of the fleet, is now at the North, endeavoring to charter such other steam vessels as may be adapted to the expedition. The Commissioners have not yet been selected, and will not probably be until the fleet is nearly ready to start. Who they are to be is apparently a complete mystery with everybody, and it will no doubt remain so until within a short time of their departure. It is not anticipated that there will be any necessity for the use of force; but, in consideration of the inaccessibility of Paraguay, and the fact that Lopez has some three or four good war steamers, and several small armed vessels; that the navigation of the river by which the country must be approached is commanded by a fort mounting 100 guns of different caliber; that the standing army numbers 12,000 men, and comprises in its engineer and ordnance corps several skillful French officers, and that there is in the country a good supply of arms and ammunition—prudence and good judgment dictate that the force sent there should be sufficient to compel compliance with the demands of the Commissioners, if necessary.—*Washington Star, July* 30.

The Railroad Companies, with whom a contract was made to carry the mails between Washington and New Orleans in four days, commencing with the present month, have not yet performed the service within that time. This failure will doubtless engage the attention of the Postmaster General, when he returns to Washington. It is caused partly by a deficiency in the means of transportation over about seventy miles of country, between the unfinished railroads from Goodman's Depot and Water Valley, in Mississippi. The large amount of mail matter which has there accumulated, has, by telegraph, been directed to be sent to New Orleans by the way of the Mississippi river.

The United States sloop-of-war Dale was at Santa Cruz, Teneriffe Island, on the 9th of June. Commander Blair reports to the Navy Department that the officers and crew are in good health, and that of the 107 previously on the sick list, two had died. The Vincennes had returned to Porto Praya, and the Marion had gone south.

General Cass is now preparing a reply to Governor Stevens's recent letter complaining of the license and other restrictions by the Hudson Bay Company, in which he will be informed that those are matters of internal arrangement with which our Government, as such, has no concern.

In order to avoid any additional danger of collision, the boundary ordered heretofore to be run between Washington Territory and the British possessions, which has been delayed from various causes, will be now energetically pushed by Engineer Campbell, who has the work in charge. This accomplished, the dividing line will be distinctly marked.

It is rumored that Mr. John A. Washington, the present proprietor of Mount Vernon, designs to remove the remains which rest there before transferring the rest of the property to the women of the Union. Mr. Washington's speculations in walking sticks and in real estate are thought to prove him capable of even this act; but the question remains, whether he can legally do it. The contract must be very loosely worded, if it permit him to withdraw so large a part of the consideration. A purchase of the tomb of George Washington would probably be held to include the purchase of the contents of that tomb, unless they were specially excepted.

The Republicans of the 12th Congressional district of Ohio, now represented by the Hon. Samuel S. Cox, met at Columbus on July 28. Samuel Galloway, Judge Humphreys, and Col. Swayne, having declined, Mr. Lucius Case, of Licking, was nominated unanimously. It was *Resolved*, That we beat Cox.

A Rochester paper says that Col. Conrad Zeigler, who is running for Congress on the Free-State ticket, in the St. Genevieve district, Missouri, was formerly a resident of that city, has been a member of the State Legislature, and has acquired considerable distinction for his ability and readiness in debate. He is opposed by John W. Noell, Buchanan. A communication to the St. Louis *Democrat* says:

"Col. Zeigler does not endorse the Administration in many questions, and particularly on the Lecompton outrage, nor did he send money to Kansas to assist in the expulsion of the Free-State men, and he did not make such a statement at Bollinger, or anywhere else. Moreover, if Col. Zeigler is elected, he will not become a hanger-on to the Buchanan dynasty, but will discharge his duty to his constituents by a bold, fearless, and independent course; and, instead of supporting the Lecompton Constitution, as stated by 'M.' and the *Republican*, I feel no hesitation in saying that he will vote for the admission of Kansas, with whatever Constitution she may present, after a submission to the people, be the same Free or Pro-Slavery."

A three-gallon jug of Rhine wine was lately found in the bed of the Miami canal, sixteen inches below the surface. It had probably been dropped overboard by some passing boat, and the washings of the dirt had completely embedded it. The liquid was good old German wine. In addition to the three-gallon jug, there was also found on the same day, in the bed of the canal, a lady's gold watch, a five-franc piece, a leather purse with six dollars in gold and silver quarters, a Bavarian kreutzer, and other small coin.

Niblack has been nominated by the Lecomptonites for re-election, in the first Congressional district of Indiana. Judge Hovey, Anti-Lecompton and Anti-Dred Scott, is his competitor, and will receive the united support of Republicans, Americans, and Anti-Dred-Scott Democrats. It is confidently believed in Indiana that Niblack will have leave to stay at home.

Cincinnati, July 30.—The Democratic State Convention of Ohio met at Columbus yesterday, and nominated Mr. Thomas W. Bartley, Supreme Judge; Mr. Jesse Durbin Ward, Attorney General; Mr. S. W. Gibson, Comptroller; and Mr. R. H. Hendrickson, Member of the Board of Public Works.

The Hon. John Sherman has been unanimously renominated to Congress by the Republicans of the thirteenth district of this State.

Morrissey has returned to Albany from New York, having settled all the preliminaries for his coming fight with Heenan. He has gone into "training," under the guidance of a distinguished English pugilist.

Margaret Stout, the mother of Ira, and Charles, his youngest brother, who have been confined in the Rochester (N. Y.) jail since the 20th of last December, as witnesses, have been discharged from custody.

Although most of the home squadron have been ordered down to San Juan, there is no expectation of a collision. The design is to intimidate Nicaragua into the ratification of the Cass-Yrissarri treaty. But Martinez knows very well the President has no power to make war, and that the Senate refused to pass the resolution authorizing him to employ force against Nicaragua. And he is rather persuaded the Greytown performance will not be repeated. Hence there is not much likelihood the presence of a few extra men-of-war will disturb his tranquillity. The persuasive presence of a few hundred thousand dollars would command infinitely more respect, for Martinez does not boast any of those delicate scruples concerning "filthy lucre," which so much affect our susceptibilities. He is an unromantic person, and values a dollar for its own sake. The Wabash and Macedonian, which are assigned to a station near San Juan, are on their way to the Mediterranean. If Nicaragua is to be blown out of the water, the expense of a fleet might be saved. Such outfits are only needed for great Powers like Paraguay.

Fort Leavenworth advices of the 24th, per United States Express to Booneville, state that great damage has been done to the crops in the interior by the late heavy rains. Several bridges on the Fort Riley road had been carried away, as had also a new bridge across the Kansas river at Topeka, by the heavy rise.

Numbers of teamsters are arriving from Utah, having been detained at Camp Scott during the winter and spring by insufficient means of transportation.

George W. A. Richardson (Governor of Nebraska, *not* Illinois.) has returned to his former home in Quincy. His purpose is to help Douglas to fight for "the constitutional rights of the South on Northern soil," as the Richmond *Enquirer* calls the Dred-Scott-Popular-Sovereignty cause of the "Little Giant."

Last week, on the farm of the Hon. John G. Davis, near Montezuma, Indiana, two large springs burst forth from the earth, and continued to throw off such volumes of water that large fields in the neighborhood have been covered with standing pools and ponds.

The Buffalo *Courier* narrates the discovery of a horse, alive, but very weak, that had been imprisoned in a stable for two months, without access to food or drink.

Among the most deeply interesting papers read before the Scientific Convention held recently in Baltimore, was one by Professor Edward Hitchcock, upon the tracks of animals found in the Connecticut Valley. He described the valley as classic ground for these sandstone tracks, ten times more of them having been found there than elsewhere the globe over. As to the age of the rocks thus marked, he had recently concluded that a portion of them, at least, were as modern as the Lias formation. The Cabinet of Amherst College contains eight thousand individual impressions of these tracks. He said that most of his time for two years past had been given to grouping the individuals. He had made one hundred and nineteen species and sixty genera of them. He made thirty-one bipeds and fifty-five quadrupeds—eighteen having more than four feet, twelve without feet, and three of uncertain footing. Upon this he dwelt the more, because in the Annals of Scientific Discovery he had been incorrectly reported as giving up his theory that they were bird-tracks. Among the quadrupeds he had concluded, but without evidences that entirely satisfied him, that five were marsupials—the youngest of the mammalias. Of the bipeds, fourteen were of the thick-toed birds—like the ostrich—and nine of the narrow-toed tribe. These statements give us astonishing glimpses into the period when such a variety of extinct monsters went tramping or writhing up and down the valleys of New England.

The Territory of Nebraska, which is the largest in the United States, would make eleven States, each as large as South Carolina, and then have enough left to make a State as large as Maryland. Nebraska is about one-sixth the size of Europe. If Great Britain were placed in Nebraska, it would occupy a very small corner.

The *Scientific American* gives the following directions for making our houses cool in warm weather:

"The first necessity is a thorough draft. This can always be obtained by opening every door and window in the basement, the top of every window above, and by throwing each door wide open; but, above all, be sure that the trap-door in the roof is open, and there is plenty of air room from it down the stairs, so that, whichever direction be the wind, there will at least be one ascending current of air in the house. Another requisite is shade. Our common slat-shutters answer well for the windows, but the most cheap and convenient shelter for the roof is to cover it thickly with straw, dried reeds, or rushes. These will resist the influences of a noon-day sun, and keep the garret almost as cool as the basement. One of the most simple methods, and at the same time cheapest means of lowering the temperature of a room, is to wet a cloth of any size, the larger the better, and suspend it in the place you want cooled; let the room be well ventilated, and the temperature will sink from ten to twenty degrees in less than an hour. The above hints will be useful to many; and, as a last suggestion, we will inform the reader that, in summer, it is as well to keep a solution of chloride of lime in the house, and occasionally sprinkle it in the more frequented parts, as the passages and stairs."

The Richmond Enquirer puts a more Pro-Slavery interpretation on Senator Douglas's late speeches than we had supposed they would bear. In its issue of the 26th, it says:

"During the campaign of 1856, and, if we are not mistaken, in speeches delivered both before and after that period, Mr. Douglas openly advocated the doctrine that slave labor will and ought to be employed wherever climatory influences render it preferable to free labor. During the past session of Congress, Mr. Douglas expressly argued that the attributes of sovereignty belong only to the States of the confederacy; that the people of a Territory have the absolute right to form a Constitution in their own way, and without Congressional intervention, only because such a Constitution is intended to express the sovereign will, so soon as the new State shall be admitted into the Union. If Mr. Douglas has occasionally employed the expression 'popular sovereignty' in any sense opposed to this, his own able expositions of the subject are fully sufficient to demonstrate that he inadvertently fell into a mere error of expression (very prevalent at this time,) while intending to designate the limited power of self-government which the people of a Territory are enabled to exert by permission of Congress.

"*In his late speech at Springfield, Mr. Douglas distinctly admits that Congress has no right to prohibit Slavery in the Territories, and hence the Territorial Legislatures have no right to do it. Thus Mr. Douglas has gone to the full extent of the doctrine expounded by the Supreme Court in the Dred Scott case, and asserted by the President in the Silliman letter.*

"With this clear and just appreciation of the principles involved, we do not doubt that Mr. Douglas combines an entire willingness to recognise and perform whatever patriotic duties this acknowledgment of principles may dictate. That Mr. Douglas, in common with the other statesmen who prepared and enacted the Nebraska bill, has more than one serious error to atone for in that respect, cannot be denied. But we are ready to believe that these errors involved no willful negligence of constitutional right; and if past records, or present avowals, or both together, constitute a reliable test, no statesmen of the North, and very few at the South, have defended the rights of slaveholders more warmly and effectually, or have committed fewer errors in the course of honest and earnest efforts in behalf of the enforcement of constitutional guarantiee, than has Stephen A. Douglas."

Later from Europe. By Telegraph.

New York, August 3.—The Cunard steamship Persia arrived here this forenoon, with the regular dispatches from the agents of the Associated Press at Liverpool, to July 24.

European politics were dull.

The Indian bill had finally passed both Houses of Parliament, as also the bill admitting Jews to seats in the House of Commons.

Mr. D'Israeli stated in the House of Commons that the Government were preparing a plan for submission to the United States, on the subject of suspected slavers, which it was believed would be satisfactory, and accomplish the ends in view.

The fanatical movements in Turkey against the Christians still continues.

Perry Davis's Vegetable Pain Killer I have used with great success in my family, in cases of colds and coughs, and also had the happiness to see my son immediately relieved of distressing dysentery, and completely cured in a few days.

23 WARD C. COPELAND, *Fall River.*

MARKETS.

BALTIMORE MARKET.

Carefully prepared to Tuesday, August 3, 1858.

Flour, Howard Street	$4.75	@	0.00
Flour, City Mills	5.00	@	0.00
Rye Flour	3.50	@	3.75
Corn Meal	4.25	@	4.62
Wheat, white	1.30	@	1.36
Wheat, red	1.25	@	1.50
Corn, white	84	@	86
Corn, yellow	91	@	93
Rye, Pennsylvania	70	@	76
Rye, Virginia	65	@	00
Oats, Maryland and Virginia	35	@	40
Oats, Pennsylvania	44	@	45
Clover Seed	4.50	@	4.37
Timothy Seed	2.50	@	2.25
Hay, Timothy	15.00	@	20.00
Hops	7	@	14
Potatoes, Mercer	1.30	@	1.40
Bacon, Shoulders	7	@	00
Bacon, Sides	9	@	00
Bacon, Hams	10½	@	13
Pork, Mess	17.75	@	00.00
Pork, Prime	15.00	@	00.00
Beef, Mess	17.00	@	17.25
Lard, in barrels	11½	@	11¾
Lard, in kegs	11½	@	12
Wool, Unwashed	00	@	00
Wool, Washed	00	@	00
Wool, Pulled	00	@	00
Wool, Fleece, common	00	@	00
Wool, Fleece, fine	00	@	00
Wool, Choice Merino	00	@	00
Butter, Western, in kegs	12½	@	14
Butter, Roll	16	@	00
Cheese	9½	@	10
Coffee, Rio	10	@	10½
Coffee, Java	16	@	14½

NEW YORK MARKET.

Carefully prepared to Tuesday, August 3, 1858.

Flour, State brands	$4.10	@	4.15
Flour, State brands, extra	4.30	@	4.40
Flour, Western	4.10	@	4.20
Flour, Southern	5.00	@	5.15
Rye Flour	3.00	@	3.60
Corn Meal	4.10	@	4.20
Wheat, white	1.08	@	1.16
Wheat, red	1.08	@	1.10
Corn, white	1.08	@	00
Corn, yellow	1.00	@	1.05
Rye	80	@	81
Oats	46	@	47
Clover Seed	7.00	@	8.00
Timothy Seed	2.12	@	2.37½
Hay	45	@	53
Hops	4	@	6
Bacon, Shoulders	6	@	6¼
Bacon, Sides	10	@	00
Bacon, Hams	8⅝	@	8⅞
Pork, Mess	17.45	@	17.50
Pork, Prime	14.10	@	14.15
Beef	11.00	@	11.75
Lard, in barrels	11	@	11⅝
Lard, in kegs	10½	@	11
Butter, Western	10	@	17
Butter, State	12	@	20
Cheese	3	@	8
Coffee, Rio	10	@	11½
Coffee, Java	15	@	16
Wool, Unwashed	00	@	00
Wool, Washed	00	@	00
Wool, Pulled	00	@	00
Wool, Fleece, common	00	@	00
Wool, Fleece, fine	00	@	00
Iron, Scotch, Pig	28.00	@	28.50
Lime, Rockland	60	@	0.00
Lime, common	80	@	00

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GENTLEMEN: I am at a loss to express with words the satisfaction it gives me to inform you of the benefit I have received from the use of your Pain Killer. About one year since, I was attacked with the inflammatory rheumatism, being unable to walk for eight weeks; besides the confinement to the house, the pain I experienced no tongue can describe. But to return to the object of this letter. On the 27th of December last, I had a more severe attack than before. I immediately commenced using the Pain Killer made by you, which, to my surprise, immediately relieved me of pain, and saved me the necessity of being confined to my bed for one day. It is now eleven days since the attack, and the inflammation has entirely subsided. My limbs, which were tremendously swollen, have assumed their natural shape. In short, I am entirely well; and feel bound, by the common sympathies of my nature for those who may be thus afflicted, to make the above statement, that all may resort to the Pain Killer, that time, expense, and a world of suffering may be prevented.

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With this view, they have issued, and will continue to publish, from time to time, the most important speeches which have been and shall be delivered or written.

We trust that all who are interested in defeating the Pro-Slavery or Administration Party in the approaching fall elections, will purchase these documents for gratuitous circulation among their friends and neighbors. The Association are appealed to for documents for gratuitous circulation to an extent far beyond their means. Under these circumstances, and as Congress is about to adjourn, we appeal to the friends of the cause throughout the several States to take this work upon themselves, and see that their several localities are fully supplied with the proper kind of documents. Heretofore, this work has been done by the Members of Congress at their own expense, but after the adjournment of Congress this responsibity will devolve upon other friends of the cause.

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B. B. FRENCH, *President.*

L. CLEPHANE, *Secretary.*

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For the National Era.

FREE LABOR IN TROPICAL PRODUCTIONS.

Emancipation in the British West Indies.

INTRODUCTORY.

BOSTON, July 4, 1858.

To the Editor of the National Era:

I resided fifty days in December and January last in the beautiful island of Barbados, West Indies, and spent much of the time in collecting information relating to the great subject of Negro Emancipation. I found all classes, from the highest to the lowest, ready and willing to aid me orally, and in furnishing written replies to a set of questions I had prepared. I send you the letters I received in response, for publication in the *Era*, if you think they will do good, and tend to satisfy our Southern brethren that it would be both safe and profitable to let the bond go free.

Barbados is twenty miles long and fourteen wide. The surface of the island is low, and is diversified by gently-undulating hills, the highest of which rises 1,147 feet above the sea. The mean annual temperature at noon is about 80°. The great staple of product of the island is sugar; and it is cultivated from one end to the other, like a garden, by happy, *free* laborers. Land is worth twice as much as it was during slavery, and the exports of sugar have greatly increased since the laborers were emancipated.

The price paid for a task or day's work seems small; but it must be considered that the laborer lives almost entirely upon vegetables and fruits raised upon his own land, and that he needs no fire to warm him, even in winter. Besides, twenty-five cents a day is the price paid in some parts of the United States for labor.

Mr. Helper, of North Carolina, says, in his book:

"In my own immediate neighborhood, not less than thirty young women, non-slaveholding whites, between the ages of 15 and 25, labor in the fields every summer, and that for 25 cents a day."

According to the census of 1851, it would appear that the total population of Barbados was 135,939—15,824 whites, 30,059 colored, and 90,056 negroes. The emancipated, in their peaceable behaviour at least, show themselves worthy of the boon of freedom; affording an example, ever to be remembered, of the influence of justice and humanity, in allaying the angry passions and promoting good will and order, those best bonds of society. Not a single outrage was committed in the excitement of emancipation; not a single act of revenge was perpetrated, then or after. There appeared to be a complete oblivion or forgiveness of all past wrongs and hard usage—all bad feelings seemed to be overpowered by one of gratitude for the benefit conferred.

Yours, respectfully,

CHARLES TAPPAN.

CIRCULAR.

BARBADOS, W. I., *January*, 1858.

To Mr. ——

What are the advantages resulting, in this Island, from the Abolition of Slavery?

1. What is the religious condition, at this time, of the Island generally, and the emancipated classes in particular, compared with that during Slavery? And in how far may the emancipation be supposed to have affected it?
2. What is the state of education now, compared with what it was under Slavery?
3. Is there less crime now than formerly, and to what extent?
4. What is the price of land now, and what was it under Slavery? And whether the investment is considered more advantageous now than it was then?
5. Is there greater security of person and property now than there was in the state of Slavery?
6. Generally speaking, is the day's work of the free laborer for wages greater or less than was that of the slave? And in what proportion?
7. What was the estimated cost of slave labor per diem—taking into account the proportion of workers to slaves, the interest and risk of the investment in them, the law and other charges to keep them in order, as well as maintenance in food, clothing, &c.—and what is now the daily cost of free labor?
8. Do the laborers usually work by the day (or job, or both? and how many hours constitute a day's work?
9. Are the estates, generally speaking, better or worse cultivated under free labor than they were under slavery?
10. Comparing the cost of production, on the whole, with the *quantity* of produce raised, apart from its actual market value, has that cost been increased or diminished under the free-labor system? And are there any modifying circumstances, other than Emancipation, that might be supposed to have contributed to that result?
11. Is Emancipation generally acknowledged in this Island to be a blessing? And if not, by what particular class or classes is it considered otherwise?
12. Has there been, at any time since Emancipation, any manifestation of vengeful feelings on the part of the emancipated, for the things endured in Slavery?
13. Do the laborers [illegible]
14. What time do the usual engagements for Estate labor leave them for home work, or work in their own grounds?
15. Are houses furnished them rent free on the Estates? Or, if they pay rent, how is it rated, and what are the conditions?
16. Are laborers required to pay any taxes peculiarly affecting their condition and circumstances?
17. Have they the right of voting equally with other classes?
18. On the whole, have they been benefited or otherwise by emancipation, and in what respects?
19. What is the present condition of the poor whites? And how have they been affected by Emancipation?

CHARLES TAPPAN.

From his Excellency F. Hincks, Governor of the Five Windward Islands, West Indies.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE, BARBADOS, *January* 9, 1858.

MY DEAR SIR: I willingly comply with your request, that I should communicate to you the opinions which I have formed as to the results of the abolition of Slavery in the British West Indies, as well in their bearing on the civilization of the emancipated classes, as on the general prosperity of the colonies. I do this the more readily, because, being thoroughly persuaded that most erroneous opinions on this important subject prevail generally, both in Europe and America, I think that every possible assistance should be given to those who take the trouble to inquire into the actual condition of these colonies.

The errors to which I shall more especially advert are, first, the assertion that slave labor is cheaper than free. Secondly, the charge of habitual indolence advanced against the creoles of African descent, which has led, it is alleged, to the abandonment of the sugar estates, and the consequent ruin of the proprietors.

On the first point, viz: the comparative cost of free and slave labor, I believe that little if any difference of opinion prevails among the proprietors of this island. It is, however, much to be regretted that the West Indian planters have more than once, since the period of emancipation, made formal complaints to the Imperial Parliament, founded on their inability to compete in the production of sugar by free labor with the slave labor of foreign countries.

The object of the complainants doubtless was to obtain a continuance of the protective duties then levied upon foreign sugars. I can, however, state with confidence, that many who at one time held the opinion that the increased production of sugar in Cuba was to be attributed to the cheapness of slave labor, have long since discovered their error. For my own part, I entertain no doubt that the productiveness of Cuba is to be mainly attributed to its rich virgin soil, on which ratooning can be carried on for many years with little labor. Land in that island is abundant and cheap, and labor is in great demand for clearing and preparing it for cultivation.

It must be borne in mind that field labor is but one item among many in the cost of producing sugar. Other items, such as the maintenance of stock, lumber, manures, expense of management, skilled workmen, casks, &c., must all be taken into account, and will be found to cost even more than the labor. But the most important item, perhaps, is the interest on invested capital. The expenses of a Barbados estate, capable of making 200 hogsheads of sugar, on an average, may be stated as follows:

Labor in the field and boiling house	£1,200
Other items mentioned above	1,500
Interest on capital (8 per cent.) on £30,000 sterling	2,400
	5,100

The foregoing is a very full (I think an unexaggerated) estimate of the cost of labor and other expenses, but the interest is an extreme one. Money so invested ought to yield 8 per cent.; and the price estimated, £30,000, for an estate capable of yielding 200 hogsheads, is below that at which late sales have been made. The estimate of labor and other expenses is based upon one furnished by two agricultural societies in this island some years ago; but I shall have occasion, before I close this letter, to furnish you with the actual cost of labor on a well-managed estate, which shows it to be only £4 per hogshead. The other expenses ought, I think, to be reduced by 20 per cent. It is desirable that you should clearly understand the proportion which field labor bears to the total cost of a hogshead of sugar. I have made many inquiries as to the relative cost of production in other colonies in this Government, which comprises Barbados, St. Vincent, Grenada, St. Lucia, and Tobago. The rate of wages is about the same in all, except Tobago, where it is rather less. It varies from 10 pence to one shilling for men, 7½ to 10 pence for women, and 6 pence for children. Task work prevails generally in the island. The wages are not higher in any of the leeward islands, and in some of them they are lower. In British Guiana and Trinidad, wages are considerably higher than in the other colonies, and the demand for labor is increasing. I do not believe that in any of the other colonies estates are worth anything like what they are in Barbados; and consequently they could all afford to give a much higher rate of wages. In Trinidad, as in Cuba, uncultivated land can be obtained from Government at a very moderate price. The value of the produce of a sugar estate, as I have stated above, may be estimated as follows:

200 hhds. of sugar, averaging 15 cwt. net in England, at £25	£5,000
Rum, molasses, and provisions	850
	5,850

You will perceive that wages might be considerably increased at present prices, without real estate experiencing any material decline. Such is the result of the cultivation of sugar by free labor. Property, I need scarcely observe, has advanced in the Island much beyond its value in the time of Slavery. But what I desire to impress chiefly upon you is, that where rich land adapted to sugar cultivation can be obtained cheap as in Trinidad and Cuba, the price of labor is of secondary importance. Every effort will be used to obtain labor at any price; and with equal facilities for getting to market, the old plantations could no more compete with the new ones, than your lands in New England with the rich virgin soils of the Mississippi valley.

I have but little means of comparing the present cost of slave and free labor. I have no doubt, however, from what I have heard, that the slaves in Cuba are worked much harder than they were in the British West Indies, or than they now are in the United States. The fairest test, perhaps, of the comparative cost of slave and free labor, is to compare the wages paid to the free laborer with the rate demanded by those who let out their slaves to hire. The owners of slaves in Cuba are in the habit of hiring them in gangs; and I understand that the rate some years ago, when sugar was much lower in price, was $17 per month, which, allowing 26 working days, would be 65 cents per day—a rate far exceeding the price of free labor in any of the British colonies. I am not certain whether the food is provided by the owner, or by the person hiring the slaves. On these points I shall have further information ere long; but as you intend to visit Havana, you will be able to make inquiries on the spot.

As to the relative cost of slave and free labor in this colony, I can supply you with facts, in which the most implicit reliance may be placed. They have been furnished to me by the proprietor of an estate containing 300 acres of land, and situated at a distance of about twelve miles from the shipping port. The estate referred to produced, during Slavery, equal on an average to 140 hogsheads of sugar of the present weight, and required 230 slaves. It is now worked by 90 free laborers—60 adults, and 30 under 16 years of age. Its average produce during the last seven years has been 194 hogsheads. The total cost of labor has been £770 15s., or £3 19s. 2d. per hogshead of 1,700 pounds. The average of pounds of sugar to each laborer during Slavery was 1,043 pounds, and during freedom, 3,664 pounds. To estimate the cost of slave labor, the value of 230 slaves must be ascertained; and I place them at what would have been a low average, £50 sterling each, which would make the entire stock amount to £11,500. This, at 6 per cent. interest, which on such property is much too low an estimate, would give - £690

Cost of clothing, food, and medical attendance, I estimate at £3 10s. - 805

Total cost - 1,495

or £10 12s. 6d. per hogshead, while the cost of free labor on the same estate is under £4. The cost of maintenance of slaves is a point on which I have not been able to get any reliable information. The highest estimate I have had is £8; the lowest, £3. It is a point of no importance now, as far as these colonies are concerned; but in comparing the cost of free labor with slave, in the present day, it is desirable to be accurate. I have been told that the average cost in Cuba is $30 per annum; and if so, there can be no doubt that this, added to the interest on the value of the slaves, would bring up the cost of labor to a much higher price than that given for free labor in any of the British colonies.

I need scarcely remind you that the cost per head of slaves must be calculated on the entire population—men, women, and children—a considerable per centage of which will furnish no labor in return. It may interest you to know the comparative value of property in this island during Slavery and Freedom. The estate just referred to, containing 300 acres of land, was worth, during Slavery, £50 per acre, or £15,000; and I have estimated the slaves round at £50 each, which will be £11,500. I am not aware what the compensation money amounted to per head in Barbados, but I have no doubt to £30, at least. After the award of compensation for the slaves, the estate was sold during the apprenticeship for £25,000, and was purchased a few years ago, by the present proprietor, for £30,000—which price I have no doubt he could obtain for it at any moment. It is proper that I should add, that I have taken the estate, regarding which I have furnished you with the foregoing particulars, as furnishing a fair illustration of the comparative productiveness and cost of cultivation during Slavery and Freedom. I could multiply instances in which there have been similar results.

I shall now proceed to the consideration of the complaint against the creoles of African descent, that they are indolent, and that they have abandoned the sugar plantations. This is a subject involved in much greater difficulty than the one on which I have already treated. I admit that the planters generally, in several of the British colonies, would vehemently maintain the correctness of the charge. I am, however, bound to affirm, that after a most patient investigation, I have been unable to arrive at such a conclusion. There is no doubt that the condition of the laboring classes ought to be worse in Barbados than in any of the other colonies. In Barbados, land is exorbitantly dear, being worth in small quantities from £400 to £500 per acre. Wages are from ten pence to one shilling per day, as I have already stated. There are only five working days in the week, except during crop time. With all these disadvantages, the small proprietors in this island holding less than five acres of land, increased in sixteen years from about 1,100 to 3,537. I doubt much whether such a proof of industrious habits could be furnished with regard to a similar class of laborers in any other country in the world. I adduce the above remarkable fact to prove that in this island there has been no want of industry on the part of the creoles of African descent. I think that in those colonies in which the estates have been partially abandoned, we must look to other causes than the indolence of the laborers. In all those colonies, land is abundant, and comparatively cheap; and I need not remind any one acquainted with the settlement of land in America, whether in the United States or the British provinces, that where land is cheap and abundant, labor will be dear and scarce. The poor Irish immigrant pursues exactly the same course in Canada, which the creole of African descent does in Guiana or Trinidad. He endeavors to get land of his own, and become a proprietor instead of a laborer.

Unfortunately, the planters have never adopted a policy calculated to retain the creoles on their estates. Such at least is my opinion. A West Indian planter follows two occupations. He is an extensive agriculturist, and likewise a manufacturer. In those capacities he requires a considerable capital to enable him to succeed. I believe that the most profitable employment for labor in the West Indies is the cultivation of the sugar cane, especially if prices anything like the present should be maintained. What, then, have been the inducements held out to the laborers to work upon the sugar plantations? In Barbados, I have explained already that wages have ranged from ten pence to one shilling per task, and that two prevails generally, with the exception of Guiana and Trinidad. In addition to these wages, a small allotment of land is usually given, but on a most uncertain tenure. The laborer may be ejected at any time on a few days' notice, and he is subjected to penalties for not working on the estate. I am fully convinced that the abandonment of the estates is owing more to the tenure, on which alone the planters would lease land, than to any other cause. It would have been a wise policy for a proprietor to have given leases of small allotments in perpetuity, redeemable by the full payment of the capital. It would have been the common interest of the laborer and proprietor, that each land should be cultivated in canes, which the tenant would necessarily have to bring to the mill of the proprietor; and this would have tended to keep up a good understanding. Liberal wages would have induced such tenants to labor on the estates, which they could easily have done, without interfering with their own cultivation. The rate of wages should be regulated by the price of sugar. If the laborers found that when high prices prevailed, their wages were increased in proportion, they would willingly submit to reduction during a period of low prices. Their experience in some colonies, I regret to say, has been, that wages have been reduced when the prices of sugar have been low, but there has been no disposition to increase them in times of prosperity. It seems almost incomprehensible, that labor should be diverted to so great an extent, in the British colonies, to the raising of provisions, for which there is but a limited market, when it could be so much more profitably employed in the cultivation of the cane. The cause, however, can only be assigned to the insufficiency of the inducements held out to the laboring classes. My belief is, that whenever sufficient inducements are offered, labor can be obtained. I am not, however, of opinion that high wages constitute the best kind of inducement. On the contrary, looking to the nature of the demand for labor, which during the reaping and manufacture of the crop is much greater than at any other time, I think that the true policy would be, to encourage the industrious classes to combine labor on their own account with labor for the proprietors. The encouragement, which I believe would be sufficient, would be the concession of small allotments of land at a fair rent, but on such a tenure as would render the laborer independent. It may be said, that if so situated, he would refuse to work for hire. But if, as I contend, the most valuable agricultural product is the sugar cane, the proprietor would be able to hold out a sufficient inducement to his tenants to labor, by furnishing them with facilities for the manufacture of their crop; and even viewing the case in the worst point of view for the proprietor, he would get an ample rent for his land.

I ascribe the indolence of the creole laborers, in a great degree, to the nature of their pursuits. They have not been encouraged to labor on their own account any product, for which there is an export demand. They have chiefly been engaged in the raising of provisions, for which there is only a local sale; and as increased production would cause a decline of price, there is no inducement to industry.

I cannot help thinking that the capitalists and laborers would have long since come to a satisfactory understanding, as to the terms on which the cultivation of the cane should be carried on, but for the facilities afforded to the former of obtaining labor by emigration from other countries. The effect of this emigration has been to render the proprietary body more independent of creole labor, and less willing to offer the necessary inducements. There is at present a very active demand for labor, owing to the high prices of sugar which have recently prevailed; and in several of the colonies, particularly British Guiana and Trinidad, it would, I presume, be impossible to supply it from the native population.

Believing, as I have reason to do, that there is no probability of any extensive emigration from Africa to the West Indies, and that for many reasons Coolie emigration should be avoided, if possible, my earnest desire would be that some satisfactory arrangement should be made, by which free negroes from the United States and Canada could be induced to settle in the West Indies. It is, however, vain for the planters to look for emigration from America, unless they offer much greater inducements than they have yet done. Cheap land, on a satisfactory tenure, combined with fair wages, would, I am inclined to think, operate as an encouragement to the free negroes of America to emigrate, as they would find the climate much more suitable to them than the Northern States or Canada.

The rate of wages ought to be one shilling and six pence per task; and I may observe, that an ordinary task can be finished with ease by an able-bodied man by noon, so that the rate of wages is really higher in the West Indies than would be supposed from its nominal rate. But it should be rigidly insisted on, as a condition to any system of emigration, that land, from half an acre to two acres, according to the number in a family, should be leased in perpetuity, at a rent equal to six per cent. on the value; and that the tenant should have the option of becoming the purchaser, by paying up the capital. I am unaware of the value of land in Guiana, but in any of the other colonies, £25 per acre for land within half a mile of the sugar works would be a high rate. In some colonies it should be less. Whether such inducements would be sufficient to direct the emigration of the free negroes from the United States to the West Indies, I am unable to say; but less, I am convinced, need not be offered. The preceding remarks apply chiefly to those points affecting the interests of the planters.

In this island, there can be no doubt whatever, emancipation has been a great boon to all classes. Real estate has increased in price, and is a more certain and advantageous investment than in the time of Slavery. The estates are much better and more economically cultivated, and the proprietors are, I am inclined to think, perfectly contented. In other colonies, the proprietors have suffered from a variety of causes. It would be unjust to blame them for not having adopted a wiser policy towards the laboring classes. They, as a general rule, meant to act liberally, and, I have no doubt, believe that they have been treated with ingratitude. I am, nevertheless, convinced that the laboring classes have been blamed without cause. The tenure of land (a tenancy at will) on the estates has driven the laborers from them. They have purchased or leased land elsewhere, it being cheap and abundant; and there has not been an adequate inducement in the form of wages offered to them by the estates. The majority of the proprietors were overwhelmed with debt at the period of emancipation; the value of property had been much too high; and these causes, combined with the reduction in the price of sugar, have produced much individual distress. It has been a most serious evil, too, that so many West Indian proprietors have been non-residents. This evil, however, will cure itself in time. Property has been changing hands of late; and, eventually, I have no doubt that the proprietors generally will live on their own estates, and save the heavy expense of management.

With regard to the condition of the African race, I can answer your queries with unmixed satisfaction, and with the conviction that there will be little if any difference of opinion among well-informed persons on that subject. The improvement which has taken place in the religious condition of the peoples of all classes, and the progress of education, is quite equal to what could reasonably have been expected. The creoles are advancing rapidly in civilization. You have yourself made the acquaintance of men who were formerly slaves, and who are now in independent circumstances, and enjoying a large share of public respect. But the very causes which have led to the great prosperity of the planters of Barbados have been to a considerable extent unfavorable to the laboring classes. If any of that class in the British West Indies had cause to complain, it would be in this island; and it may be observed that they can emigrate in a few hours, and at a very little expense, to colonies where land is both abundant and cheap, and where higher wages prevail.

I shall now proceed to notice a few points referred to in your printed queries, which I have not had occasion to touch on. It is impossible to compare the present statistics of crime with those during Slavery, when the great bulk of our ordinary offences, petty thefts and assaults, were summarily punished by the managers and overseers of estates. You have had an opportunity to satisfy yourself that the offences in this island are not of an aggravated character. That there is much greater security for person and property now than there was during Slavery, does not admit of a doubt. In Barbados, there is a complete separation between rent and wages, which is clearly the wisest policy; but I fear that this island is an exception to the colonies generally. Elsewhere, as I have already explained, it was deemed expedient to lease small allotments, from half an acre to one or even two acres, on sufferance, no rent being charged, if continuous labor were given. Rent was made a sort of fine for not laboring; and in case of dispute, summary ejectment followed, the laborer having to move his house and crops, or sell them at great disadvantage. This wretched system, I firmly believe, has led to the abandonment of the estates in those colonies where land could be obtained on a different tenure; and, generally speaking, there is no difficulty in obtaining it. In all colonies, the laborers have abundant time to cultivate their own grounds. Indeed, there is no such thing as hard work performed by any class of the population, from the highest to the lowest.

There are no taxes peculiarly affecting laborers. The elective franchise is generally high, but there are no class distinctions. The prejudices regarding color are, I think, fast disappearing. Strangers are apt to exaggerate the social distinctions, and to attribute to prejudice regarding race or color, that which proceeds from entirely different causes. The classes of society are more marked in the West Indies than they are in America. As in England, there has been in the West Indies a wealthy class of landed proprietors, on which the masses, who are mere laborers, depend for employment. There is also, as in England, a middle class, consisting of the smaller proprietors, traders, and mechanics. This last-named class in Barbados is intelligent and active, and is striving to attain political power and advancement. You will find that the higher class in Barbados is generally white, the middle class colored, and the laboring class black. There are, of course, exceptions to this remark. There are very poor whites, and wealthy men of color, and of unmixed African descent, and men of all shades, in the middle class. In some of the other colonies, the higher class has almost disappeared, owing to absenteeism and other causes; and you will therefore find more persons of color in a high social position in these colonies than in Barbados.

The opinions which I have expressed in this letter have been formed after patient and impartial inquiry, and are sincerely held. I am bound, however, to add, that few of the planters would admit that I have assigned correct reasons for the abandonment of the estates by the laborers. I wish very much that the experiment could be tried of cultivating an estate in accordance with the principles which I have laid down.

Meantime, it is sufficient for me further to observe, that it is generally admitted that the negro understands his own interest; and if, as all agree, the most profitable cultivation in these islands is that of the sugar cane, it must follow that the creole would pursue that branch of industry, if sufficient inducements were held out to him. I maintain that wherever those inducements are offered, he invariably does labor at cane cultivation.

Believe me, my dear sir, yours, very truly,

F. HINCKS.

Charles Tappan, Esq.

KANSAS-LECOMPTON CONSTITUTION.

SPEECH OF HON. JAMES H. HAMMOND, OF SOUTH CAROLINA, ON THE ADMISSION OF KANSAS.

Delivered in the Senate of the U. States, March 4, 1858.

The Senate, as in Committee of the Whole, having under consideration the bill for the admission of the State of Kansas into the Union—

Mr. HAMMOND said:

MR. PRESIDENT: In the debate which occurred in the early part of the last month, I understood the Senator from Illinois [Mr. DOUGLAS] to say that the objection to the reception of the Lecompton Constitution was narrowed down to a single point. That point was, whether that Constitution embodied the will of the people of Kansas. Am I correct?

MR. DOUGLAS. The Senator is correct, with this qualification: I could waive the irregularity, and agree to the reception of Kansas into the Union under the Lecompton Constitution, provided I was satisfied that it was the act and deed of that people, and embodied their will. There are other objections; but the others I could overcome, if this point were disposed of.

MR. HAMMOND. I so understood the Senator. I understood that if he could be satisfied that this Constitution embodied the will of the people of Kansas, all other defects and irregularities could be cured by the act of Congress, and that he himself would be willing to permit such an act to be passed.

Now, sir, the only question is, how is that will to be ascertained; and upon that point, and that only, we shall differ. In my opinion, the will of the people of Kansas is to be sought in the act of her lawful Convention elected to form a Constitution, and nowhere else; and that it is unconstitutional and dangerous to seek it elsewhere. I think that the Senator fell into a fundamental error in his report dissenting from the report of the majority of the Territorial Committee, when he said that the Convention which framed this Constitution was "the creature of the Territorial Legislature;" and from that error has probably arisen all his subsequent errors on this subject. How can it be possible that a Convention should be the creature of a Territorial Legislature? The Convention was an assembly of the people in their highest sovereign capacity about to perform their highest possible act of sovereignty. The Territorial Legislature is a mere provisional Government; a petty corporation, appointed and paid by the Congress of the United States, without a particle of sovereign power. Shall that interfere with a sovereignty—inchoate, but still a sovereignty? Why, Congress cannot interfere; Congress cannot confer on the Territorial Legislature the power to interfere. Congress is not sovereign. Congress has sovereign powers, but no sovereignty. Congress has no power to act outside of the limitations of the Constitution; no right to carry into effect the supreme will of any people, and, therefore, Congress is not sovereign. Nor does Congress hold the sovereignty of Kansas. The sovereignty of Kansas resides, if it resides anywhere, with the sovereign States of this Union. They have conferred upon Congress, among other powers, the authority of administering such sovereignty to their satisfaction. They have given Congress the power to make needful rules and regulations regarding the Territories, and they have given Congress power to admit a State—"*admit*," not *create*. Under these two powers, Congress may first establish a provisional Territorial Government merely for municipal purposes; and when a State has grown into rightful sovereignty, when that sovereignty which has been kept in abeyance demands recognition, when a community is formed there, a social compact created, a sovereignty born as it were upon the soil, then Congress is gifted with the power to acknowledge it, and the Legislature, only by mere usage, sometimes neglected, assists at the birth of it by passing a precedent resolution assembling a Convention.

But when that Convention assembles to form a Constitution, it assembles in the highest known capacity of a people, and has no superior in this Government but a State sovereignty; or rather the State sovereignties of all the States alone can do anything with the act of that Convention. Then if that Convention was lawful, if there is no objection to the Convention itself, there can be no objection to the action of the Convention; and there is no power on earth that has a right to inquire, outside of its acts, whether the Convention represented the will of the people of Kansas or not; for a Convention of the people is, according to the theory of our Government, for all the purposes for which the people elected it, THE PEOPLE, *bona fide*, being the only way in which *all* the people can assemble and act together. I do not doubt that there might be some cases of such gross and palpable frauds committed in the *formation* of a Convention, as might authorize Congress to investigate them, but I can scarcely conceive of any. And when a State knocks at the door for admission, Congress can with propriety do little more than inquire if her Constitution is republican. That it embodies the will of her people must necessarily be taken for granted, if it is their lawful act. I am assuming, of course, that her boundaries are settled, and her population sufficient.

If what I have said be correct, then the will of the people of Kansas is to be found in the action of her Constitutional Convention. It is immaterial whether it is the will of a majority of the people of Kansas *now*, or not. The Convention was, or might have been, elected by a majority of the people of Kansas. A Convention, elected in April, may well frame a Constitution that would not be agreeable to a majority of the people of a new State, rapidly filling up, in the succeeding January; and if Legislatures are to be allowed to put to vote the acts of a Convention, and have them annulled by a subsequent influx of immigrants, there is no finality. If you were to send back the Lecompton Constitution, and another was to be framed, in the slow way in which we do public business in this country, before it would reach Congress and be passed, perhaps the majority would be turned the other way. Whenever you go outside of the regular forms of law and Constitutions to seek for the will of the people, you are wandering in a wilderness—a wilderness of thorns.

If this was a minority Constitution, I do not know that that would be an objection to it. Constitutions are made for minorities. Perhaps minorities ought to have the right to make Constitutions, for they are administered by majorities. The Constitution of this Government was made by a minority, and as late as 1840 a minority had it in their hands, and could have altered or abolished it; for, in 1840, six out of the twenty-six States of the Union held the numerical majority.

The Senator from Illinois has, upon his view of the Lecompton Constitution and the present situation of affairs in Kansas, raised a cry of "popular sovereignty." The Senator from New York [MR. SEWARD] yesterday made himself facetious about it, and called it "squatter sovereignty." There is a popular sovereignty which is the basis of our Government, and I am unwilling that the Senator should have the advantage of confounding it with "squatter sovereignty." In all countries and in all time, it is well understood that the numerical majority of the people could, if they chose, exercise the sovereignty of the country; but for want of intelligence, and for want of leaders, they have never yet been able successfully to combine and form a stable popular Government. They have often attempted it, but it has always turned out, instead of a popular sovereignty, a *populace* sovereignty; and demagogues, placing themselves upon the movement, have invariably led them into military despotism.

I think that the popular sovereignty which the Senator from Illinois would derive from the acts of his Territorial Legislature, and from the information received from partisans and partisan presses, would lead us directly into *populace*, and not popular sovereignty. Genuine popular sovereignty never existed on a firm basis except in this country. The first gun of the Revolution announced a new organization of it, which was embodied in the Declaration of Independence, developed, elaborated, and inaugurated forever in the Constitution of the United States. The two pillars of it were Representation and the Ballot-box. In distributing their sovereign powers among the various departments of the Government, the people retained for themselves the single power of the ballot-box; and a great power it was. Through that they were able to control all the departments of the Government. It was not for the people to exercise political power in detail; it was not for them to be annoyed with the cares of Government; but, from time to time, through the ballot-box, to exert their sovereign power and control the whole organization. This is popular sovereignty, the popular sovereignty of a legal constitutional ballot-box; and when spoken through that box, the "voice of the people," for all political purposes, "is the voice of God;" but when it is heard outside of that, it is the voice of a demon, the *tocsin* of the reign of terror.

In passing, I omitted to answer a question that the Senator from Illinois has, I believe, repeatedly asked; and that is, what were the legal powers of the Territorial Legislature after the formation and adoption of the Lecompton Constitution? That had nothing to do with the Territorial Legislature, which was a provisional Government, almost without power, appointed and paid by this Government. The Lecompton Constitution was the act of a people, and the sovereign act of a people. They moved in different spheres and on different planes, and could not come in contact at all without usurpation on the one part or the other. It was not competent for the Lecompton Constitution to overturn the Territorial Government, and set up a Government in place of it, because that Constitution, until acknowledged by Congress, was nothing; it was not in force anywhere. It could well require the people of Kansas to pass upon it, or any portion of it; it could do whatever was necessary to perfect that Constitution, but nothing beyond that, until Congress had agreed to accept it. In the mean time, the Territorial Government, always a Government *ad interim*, was entitled to exercise all the sway over the Territory that it ever had been entitled to. The error of assuming, as the Senator did, that the Convention was the creature of the Territorial Government, has led him into the difficulty and confusion of connecting these two Governments together. There is no power to govern in the Convention, until after the adoption by Congress of its Constitution.

If the Senator from Illinois, whom I regard as the Ajax Telamon of this debate, does not press the question of frauds, I shall have little or nothing to say about that. The whole history of Kansas is a disgusting one, from the beginning to the end. I have avoided reading it as much as I could. Had I been a Senator before, I should have felt it my duty, perhaps, to have done so; but not expecting to be one, I am ignorant, fortunately, in a great measure, of details; and I was glad to hear the acknowledgment of the Senator from Illinois, since it excuses me from the duty of examining them.

I hear, on the other side of the Chamber, a great deal said about "gigantic and stupendous frauds;" and the Senator from New York, yesterday, in portraying the character of his party and the opposite one, laid the whole of those frauds upon the Pro-Slavery party. To listen to him, you would have supposed that the regiments of immigrants recruited in the purlieus of the great cities of the North, and sent out, armed and equipped with Sharpe's rifles and bowie knives and revolvers, to conquer freedom for Kansas, stood by, meek saints, innocent as doves, and harmless as lambs brought up to the sacrifice. General Lane's lambs! They remind one of the famous "*lambs*" of Colonel Kirke, to whom they have a strong family resemblance. I presume that there were frauds; and that, if there were frauds, they were equally great on all sides; and that any investigation into them on this floor, or by a commission, would end in nothing but disgrace to the United States.

But, sir, the true object of the discussion on the other side of the Chamber is to agitate the question of Slavery. I have very great doubts whether the leaders on the other side of the House really wish to defeat this bill. I think they would consider it a vastly greater victory to crush out the Democratic party in the North, and destroy the authors of the Kansas-Nebraska bill; and I am not sure that they have not brought about this imbroglio for the very purpose. They tell us that year after year the majority in Kansas was beaten at the polls! They have always had a majority, but they always get beaten! How could that be? It does seem, from the most reliable sources of information, that they have a majority, and have had a majority for some time. Why has not this majority come forward and taken possession of the Government, and made a Free-State Constitution, and brought it here? We should all have voted for its admission cheerfully. There can be but one reason: if they had brought, as was generally supposed at the time the Kansas-Nebraska act was passed would be the case, a Free-State Constitution here, there would have been no difficulty among the Northern Democrats; they would have been sustained by their people. The statement made by some of them, as I understood, that that act was a good Free-State act, would have been verified, and the Northern Democratic party would have been sustained. But its coming here a Slave State, it is hoped, will kill that party, and that is the reason they have refrained from going to the polls; that is the reason they have refrained from making it a Free State when they had the power. They intend to make it a Free State as soon as they have effected their purpose of destroying the Democratic party at the North, and now their chief object here is to agitate Slavery. For one, I am not disposed to discuss that question here in any abstract form. I think the time has gone by for that. Our minds are all made up. I may be willing to discuss it—and that is the way it should be and must be discussed—as a *practical thing*, as a thing that *is*, and *is to be;* and to discuss its effect upon our political institutions, and ascertain how long those institutions will hold together with Slavery *ineradicable*.

The Senator from New York entered very fairly into this field yesterday. I was surprised, the other day, when he so openly said, "the battle had been fought and won." Although I knew and had long known it to be true, I was surprised to hear him say so. I thought that he had been entrapped into a hasty expression by the sharp rebukes of the Senator from New Hampshire; and I was glad to learn yesterday his words had been well considered—that they meant all that I thought they meant; that they meant that the South is a conquered province, and that the North intends to rule it. He said that it was their intention "to take this Government from unjust and unfaithful hands, and place it in just and faithful hands;" that it was their intention to consecrate all the Territories of the Union to free labor; and that, to effect their purposes, they intended to reconstruct the Supreme Court.

Yesterday, the Senator said, suppose we admit Kansas with the Lecompton Constitution—what guarantees are there that Congress will not again interfere with the affairs of Kansas? Meaning, I suppose, that if she abolished Slavery, what guarantee there was that Congress would not force it upon her again. So far as we of the South are concerned, you have, at least, the guarantee of good faith that never has been violated. But what guarantee have we, when you have this Government in your possession, in all its departments, even if we submit quietly to what the Senator exhorts us to submit to—the limitation of Slavery to its present territory, and even to the reconstruction of the Supreme Court—that you will not plunder us with tariffs; that you will not bankrupt us with internal improvements and bounties on *your* exports; that you will not cramp us with navigation laws, and other laws impeding the facilities of transportation to Southern produce? What guarantee have we that you will not create a new bank, and concentrate all the finances of this country at the North, where already, for the want of direct trade and a proper system of banking in the South, they are ruinously concentrated? Nay, what guarantee have we that you will not emancipate our slaves, or, at least, make the attempt? We cannot rely on your faith when you have the power. It has been always broken whenever pledged.

[TO BE CONCLUDED IN OUR NEXT.]

THE BEAUTIES OF SLAVERY.

American Society presents some sad phases, which we hope will scarcely be credited by our descendants in the next century. Here is a sample from the diary of a young lady, lately employed as a governess in a village of the South:

"During the short time I remained down South, I was unceasingly reminded of the sad consequences of Slavery. I will tell you one instance, for I know it will not be words wasted.

"On my return from church, the first Sunday of my stay there, the door was opened by a bright and intelligent-looking slave girl of apparently nine years.

"I wanted to make her acquaintance, and asked her what her name was.

"'Aggy, ma'am.'

"'Aggy,' I inquired, 'what church is that opposite?'

"'Presbyterian, ma'am.'

"'Do you ever go to church, Aggy?'

"'Oh, yes, ma'am; I am going to-night.'

"'And can you read?'

"'No, ma'am; colored people don't read.'

"'How old are you, Aggy?'

"'I don't know.'

"'When you go to church, do you understand what the minister says?'

"'Yes, ma'am.'

"'Where are your father and mother?'

"'My father is dead, but my mother was sold away when I was little. I was sold here in Richmond, but I don't know where she is.'

"'Who owns you, Aggy?'

"'A woman in Maine street, and she hired me out to the lady I live with.'

"'Should you like to see your mother, Aggy?'

"'Yes,' she said, and gave me the softest and most touching look, as she averted her head.

"'One question more. Have you any brothers and sisters?' I asked.

"'I had four ma'am,' she replied, 'but they were all sold away.'

"I left her, for her history was told. 'Twas a short and sad one. A life with no bright spots—no sunny recollections of the past—without the love of parents, or brothers, and sisters—the joys nature designed, but man deprived her of. I could sympathize with her the more deeply, for I was then away from all I loved, and my sorrow and *ennui* in consequence was very hard to bear; but her tale touched my heart, indeed. I pitied—'twas all I could do—and went to my room, thankful that *my* lot had been cast in such pleasant places.—*N. Y. Tribune.*

Our railway trains are run too fast. Look at the recent disasters. It was a train, going half a mile a minute, that made the fatal plunge through the Sauquoit bridge. It was a train, running forty miles an hour, that was precipitated down the Shin Hollow Embankment, killing and maiming. The train that went crashing into the river on the Lafayette and Indianapolis road was a Cincinnati express train. The train that pitched off the track at Penn Yan was a New York express train. All these disasters have happened since the summer time-tables were adopted in May, increasing the average speed. It is always so. One of these wholesale, frightful sacrifices of life and limb rarely happens except to or by means of a train at high speed.

But the travelling public love to ride in one of these "Lightning Runs," which whizzes them over the track at a rate as dangerous as it is delightful. They love a speed which grinds the rails, racks the axles, strains the timbers, renders it impossible to stop in time to avoid accident, and insures death and destruction when accident does occur. So the danger is incurred to please the passengers.

> "The Drama's laws the Drama's patrons give,
> And those who live to please, must please, to live."

And by a similar necessity railway managers are forced to adopt time-tables to suit public opinion, though they know the hazard of accident, and the certainty of ruinous "wear and tear," which they involve.

Speed should be proportioned to strength of material. This is not a matter of chance, but of calculation. Giving the speed of a train, and the strength of wood and iron, it is a mere sum in arithmetic to determine whether a car can be crushed to atoms, or can only be wrenched and jolted, by going off the track. Speed should be the secondary, safety the primary consideration. Better arrive an hour later, than run the risk of being killed or maimed for life, on the way.

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